

THE  
SECOND AND  
LAST PART OF  
THE FIRST BOOKE  
*of the English Arcadiis.*

Making a compleate end of the first  
HISTOR Y:

Full of various deceptions, and much  
Interchangeable matter of wit.

*Amant alterna Camenæ.*

By G. M.



LONDON.

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TO HIS DEERE  
AND MOST RE-  
SPECTED FRIEND, MAISTER

*Francis Darlow, of Graies-Inne*

Esquire.

**I**F Paper could containe the li-  
mits of our affections, then  
would I tender you in this little  
Epistle, as large a loue, and as vn-  
blcmished as hee that hath the  
deereſt place in your bosome: But as it is with-  
out circumference, so I hope it ſhall euer re-  
maine without caute of censure. I haue chosen  
you for the ſupport of this my weake Orphan  
Booke, for three cauſes.

First, because I know you are learned, and  
how ſoeuer you priuately chide mee for any  
abſurde paſſage, yet you will lend ſtrength to  
its weake limbis, and with your goodneſſe  
giuld the deformities, were they groſſer then I  
know they will appear in an eniuious opinion.

A 3                      Secondly,

*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

Secondly, because you know mee, and I  
hope haue not noted myne Herodias, to bee  
either detraction or slander.

And lastly, because you being versed amongst  
great men, and in great societies (where my  
wits-whipping post is onely erected) may, if  
you be pleased, lay; when they say my worke  
sauours of ostentation, that it is the least sinne  
my soule labours vnder. For that power which  
did (and there was great reason it euer should  
so do) governe all the powers within mee, by  
a forcible commandement bound mee to doe  
what is done, the name and methode being  
neither of mine election: But why should I  
trouble your eares with this Apology? It suffi-  
ceth me that if you say it speakest good Eng-  
lish, I shall bee much negligent of any other  
mans derision; for it is vertue and judgement,  
not titles and apparell that I seeke to satisfie:  
Bee you then pleased, not to be displeased with  
mine vnacquainted dedication, and I shall euer  
lue knit to your loue fafhfull.

G. M.

To



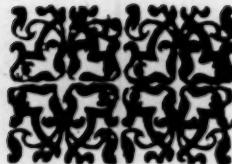
To the vnunderstanding Reader,  
For hee which hath knowledge needes  
not my wordes.

 Ensure, which is the whipping Beadle to  
punish maisterlesse booke, seeing the first  
part of this booke walke abroad without  
any livery of Dedication on his backe,  
so siranously ceaz'd him, and never left  
till he brought him to the house of Correction to be iud-  
ged by the maisters of all critiscall opinions. O how la-  
mentably pale the poore booke lookt in the Margent.  
whilst one sayes (and thinkes he sayes wisely) that the  
name shewes the naturall pride of the parents; as if none  
should be cal'd Alexander that could not conquer the  
world, nor any Iacob that could not deceiue his brother;  
nor this Arcadia, except by many degrrees it could ex-  
ceed the whole world both in words and invention: For-  
getfull how many God-brothers, and selfe-like Pam-  
phelts had past through the world with the same title.  
Another sayes, the alusion is not tollerable; as if poore-  
men should not borrow from the rich, or that vertue  
should euer live so alone, that no man shoud dare to bee  
her imitator. Nay, saies a third, the great high-treason  
of all, is to make Noble Sir Phillip Sidney acquainted,  
either with Diana, or else Heliodorus, as if the excel-  
lency of his minde had disdained that which first  
brought it to perfection (Iudicall reading) o no, were he

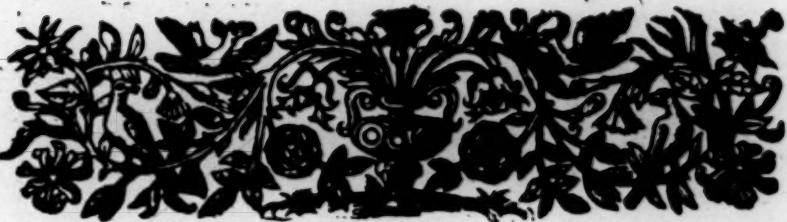
To the Reader.

on the earth, he would repine at their curiositie, and tell them, that his contemplatiue labour first brought him to actiue worthinesse. Thus was the poore booke mighty accused, and severely threatned, till appealing to schole-like discretion (which with fauour ballanceth words and their interpretations) hee was acquit, without any farther wounding then that which folly had imposed. From which, since no Art can defend it selfe, wisedome hath giuen their carping this curse, that his blowes shall not smart, nor his worst enuy be at any time regarded. O you then of little learning and great boast, be fauourable to this poore fragment of paper, and though it receive some buffets from your lips, yet out of the charity, with which you are not acquainted, let not your enuies finde more faults then are visible, so shall the Authour, hereafter, extoll your patience, and no more laugh at your wants of iudgement.

G. M.



The



The second, and last part of the first  
 Booke, of the Morall English  
*Arcadia, making vp the first compleat History.*

**T**HIS infinite varieties where-with the hand of Fortune feedeth the hungry eares of change-desiring-man; are so full of hony-poysons, that with our vncliod appetites wee seeke to swallow that with delight, which with greatest earnestnesse wee haue fled from, and eschew'd as our worst torment; al-be the face carry euer one character, onely the shape, disguis'd in a roabe of new fashion, as (most excellent sonne) thou shalt perceiue by this continuance of my most true History. For no sooner had the Maiden, wonder of all beauties, (I meane the incomparable Princesse *Mellidora*) and the sharpe witted *Ethers*, conueyed my drowsie-dead-seeming body into a priuate Arbor, adioyning vnto the Chappell of the great God *Pan*, but there, they t. o, with there dainty hands, distrob'd me of my gowne,

## *The second part of the first Booke*

of my hood, of my booke, of my beads, of my  
glassee, and of my staffe; and surely had not my old  
age bene so inseparably fixed to my constitution,  
that it was not in the power of a moment to take  
away the worke of many yeeres, I thinke they had  
not left it alone to continue with me; and with these,  
which were the high ornaments of my age, the  
*Nymph Ethera* disadorned the Princesse, and so co-  
uertly couered the beames of beauty, youth, and  
all excellency, in the shadow of decrepitnesse, old  
age, and long miseries, that euен Truth it selfe at that  
time might haue bene mis-taken in Truth-knowing;  
and thy selfe (my sonne) wouldst haue said (hadst  
thou seene so goodly a body in so humble a monu-  
ment) that there was neuer Iewell of greater worth  
more basely inainmelled. But hauing brought to  
pass, the first act of the cunning Nymphes passages  
(which was disguis'd) she conueid the Princesse to  
the former seate whiche they fist found mee, and  
there, with many pretty coniurations of affectation  
in speech, humility in action, doubt in resolutions,  
sanctity in ceremonies, and a generall sectrecy eu'en  
in despight of loues worst commindement; the  
*Nymph Ethera* left the Princesse to the hazard of  
fortune, and the manage of her owne wittes, whilst  
she returned to me, that was all drowned in sleep, and  
arming her selfe to giue sleepe a greater power, who  
had taken from mee all power but sleeping, she sang  
this triumphant *Pean* ouer mee, instead of a lullaby.

*Care and complaint, you sonnes of loues unrest,  
Sighes, teares and thoughts, the foode of discontent,*

*Ehe*

## Of the English Arcadia. 2

Flie farther from mee then the East from west,  
For all my woes and mourning times are spent:  
And come faire Hope, Truths comfort, and Desire,  
To th' that haue blinded Argus thousand eyes,  
The tel-tale Moone, and all those spots of fire,  
Which to the close night are continuall spies:  
O! come and banquet with my pleased heart,  
Whil'st my sighes breath to musicke turnes his aire,  
Disgrace to grace, and paine to pleasures part  
All my dislike to all I can hold decree:  
For since my hope in spight of hope is wonne  
My loue to hope by none shall be undone.

But during the time that the Nymph, with her charming melody, added a superfluous fetter to mine already bound vp senses, The Princesse, with a minde, variously ouer-burthened with hope, with feare, with desire, with amazement, and with all the extremest worst of confused passions; fate, infinitely longing for that some-thing, which she more, infinitely, feared would present her with nothing; till in the end, casting her faire eye-sight, from the cloudy curtaines of her aged disguise, shee might discerne Silugio, and diuers others of his fellow Forresters, accompanied with the discrete Oppos; and many other Shepheards came marching towards her; and behind them, as a man forlorne, and eu'en vnworthy of society, shee might behold the most miserable Thirsis (whose heauy pace, keeping time with the heauiness of his thoughts, shewed that the honour of griefe was onely extreme heauiness) borne more vpon the fecte of his wofullest

## *The second part of the first Booke*

cogitations, then the faire wings of any desired hope, came with such true deicetment, and impossible to be feyned humility, that euen sorrow it selfe would haue confessed shee had no thron more strong or beautifull then his sorrowfulnesse; As soone as the Forresters were come into the presence of the Princesse (as then supposed to bee the Priest and Prophet to the great God Pan) *Siluagio* with a Gentlemanly ciuility, presenting vnto her the side of an excellent Bucke of that season, spake in this manner.

Father, (said he) as your pursuite of vertue hath brought you to the most honourable title of the most vertuous, and as your adoration to your God hath brought you to the seruices of men; so let me (in the name of all the Forresters of these *Theffalian* lands, dedicate to the great Goddesse Diana) humbly intreate, from the depth of your Prophetique and admired wisedome, some ample cure for the vnexpressable sorrow of the euer-best-deseruing *Thirsis*; the rather, sith thereby, our Forrest lands, and delightfull Groues, shall receiue, euen, a new verdure, and a flourithing beauty, from the sweete musicke of his excellent inuention, and your selfe the honour of performing the best worke of mortallity; to which, shall be knit the eternall prayers of after-living-ages.

Scarcely, had *Siluagio* deliuered this vrging Oratory, when *Oppicus*, (as a man fearefull to bee late in the secondeing of so notable a businesse) slept euen betwixt his voice and his inuention, and presenting vnto the supposed Prophet a new slaine Kid, with

wich that rurall grannity, which, euен of wisedome it selfe, is accounted the most honest, modestly speake in this manner.

Accept (quoth he) deere Father I beseech thee the sympyle presents of the country Sheepheards, we dare not to tempt thee with the garish poyon of the Citty potentate; our naked life is an enemy to such glistening noysomnesse; little is our substance, little our desires, and least of all our ambitions; those fruits to our tasts are most delitious to which our hands are father, the earth mother, and our owne toiles the mid-wife; and the cleere springs do sooner coole the burnings of our thirsts, then the rich clusters of the most fruitfulst Vine-yard: our want and our wishes haue both one poise without disorder; therefore, such as wee haue accept from such as wee be; a tender Kid, the lewell of many Flockes, which we wish may be a propitious sacrifice to the great God ~~Pas~~ and thee, that yet, ere our sorrowes be full sum'd vp with dispaire, we may behold some reliefe for our vnreliued *Thirsis*.

This said, another Shepheard presents her with a bunch of rootes, which, he vowes, sprang to their greatnessse with no other moisture then the teares he had shed vpon them to behold *Thirsis* sorrowfulnes.

Another presents her with Cakes and Cracknels, which hauing bene ordained for the solemnity of much triuimph, were now made petitioners for the greatest sorrow: And thus, one after one, they present her with many gifts, yet make suit but for one goodnesse, which was, the health of him that was the health of all that beheld him; in so much, that

## *The second part of the first Booke*

when the Princesse beheld their generall lamentations, she could not forbear, but in spight of resolution, thus to suffer pity (though a stranger) to speak vnto her heart.

Poore *Thirsis*, how art thou bemon'd of all, saue onely of her, of whom thou hast deserued more then most of all; And as it would haue more spoken, bashfulness control'd it, while *Thirsis* himselfe approaching neare vnto the supposed Hermite, after the vaile of his Bonnet, and the well grac'd bent of a comely knee, thus spake vnto her.

Good father, as by the diuine augurisme of your holy knowledge, there is left nothing vn-reuealed, either what my starres presage, or my destiny hath prefixed, touching the vnhappy passage of my misfortun'd life; so let me humbly intreate, that for the accomplishment of my dispaire, I may know the end of my desires.

Sonne, (quoth the Princesse, with an orderly well chang'd voyce) first let me vnderstand what it is that you desire? I desire (quoth he) the grace and fauour of the most excellentest creature that euer Nature acknowledged: What is her name (quoth the Princesse?) *Melidora* (said the Shepheheard) and at that word a sigh flew with such violence from his boosome, that his body, like a windy impostume, made all his members shake. O (said the Princesse) I know her well, she is a proud and disdainefull dame, and full of all the curiosities of greatness. O fie, (said *Thirsis*) that blasphemy should come from goodnesse; I tell you she is as farre from pride, as Deity from sinne, and as great an enemy to disdaine

as vertue to vices; alas! she will not tread vp-  
on a respe&tlesse worme, nor will she remoue her  
eye from the worst of miserie: O shee is all that euer  
can be said to bee compleate; and, onely, a modest  
and sweete regard of honour is the opposition of  
my happiness; for she preferres a loue more worthy  
(though not more true) before mee: Then (said the  
Princess) run in an euene line, prefer some other be-  
fore her. Bid me (said the Sheepheard) create a se-  
cond Nature, make a new world, set *Saturne* in his  
first gloriousnesse: all is more easie, then to alter my  
resolution. Darest thou not (said the supposed Her-  
mite) with the helpe of thy friends, attempt to steale  
her, if opportunity should present her vnto thee?  
Not for this whole worlds Monarchy (said *Tbrisiss*)  
vnblemisht affection can bee compelled by no vio-  
lence, and may mine eies sooner fall from my head  
then such villany should issue from mine actions.  
Why (said the Princess) dare you aduenture to con-  
quer her by charmes? If (said the Sheepheard) the  
eternall tribute of an euerlasting faith; the neuer-en-  
ding-service of a continuall working soule; if the  
tedious suite of a wretched fortune; the prayers of  
dilacerated misery, or the desert of constancy had  
power to enchant: O shee had long since bene be-  
witched with vnloofable incantations. But this ex-  
amination (Father) doth but call backe my haplesnes:  
I beseech you what successe will follow my fortunes?  
Thy fate (said the Princess) hath bene full of afflic-  
tion, and thy fortunes to come are accompanied with  
great doubts; looke in this glasse and tell me what  
thou beholdest therein; and with that she drew forth  
the

## The second part of the first Booke

the Prophetique mirrour, into which the Shepheard gaz'd with such earnestnesse of minde that calling all his powers and sences into his eies they seem'd to hold a counsaile in his misery ; in the end he told her , hee saw nothing but a weather-wrackt ship, tost and turmoi'd on a tempestious sea; hauing neither Maister,Pilot,Card, nor Compasse ; yet in despight of the vnruyl billowes she made forth her way, not by the direction of Art, but, onely, by the hand of Fortune ; vpon her Keele (he said) he saw an inscription, which being drawne in large charaeters appear'd to be *Scinditur incertum*; at which words the Princesse tooke the glasse from his sight , and commanded him , without daring the trouble of more words, to depart, and think on the incertainties he had scene.

Well (said the Shepheard, with a sigh as heauy as his countenance ) my life hath bene onely the companion of Danger, and my present estate is the throne of all fearefulness ; yet when all Art,wit, and industry shall refuse me, Fortune may erect the broken Pyramid of my desteny ; but alas, I delude my fancy with a flattering hope, and yet whatsoeuer is, is incertaine, is euer indifferent , and may proue well in despight of Enuy. And when he had thus said, he turned about to his friends , and taking *Silvagio* by the hand hee departed, saying.

I am the slaye of Fortune: Oh that her inconstancy and my misery might expire in one moment; but scarcely was he gotten out of the view of the holy well, when *Diasassan*,by another path, arrived before the presence of the Princesse, and beholding her with

## *Of the English Arcadia.*

5

with deceiued eies, he said; All the blisse that can be wisht to goodnesse accompany thy holy meditations, for if my eyes benot erronious intelligencers you belong to the holy Chappell of our great God *Pan*. I honour (said the Princesse) him and it. Then reverent Father (said the Sheepheard) as you haue from the world (by the reuelation of doublfull Oracles, by vertue vnspeakable, and a sober life vnimitable) wonne an honour, which shall liue, when euен time is consumed; so let me intreate you to deliuer the iudgement of your wisedome, in a case that's intricate, and begirts me with much torment. The Princesse, beholding her Sheepheard with the iealous eies of a suspitious feare, was so transported with distempered passions, that wisedome had much a do to gouerne affection: Yet desire to know what of all things she desired not to know, so temper'd both her will and actions, that with a voice which was musicall, euен in scynd roughnesse, she said.

Whence (Sheepheard) growes the ground of thy torment?

From this (he replied) I serue a Nymph in holy, vnspotted, and neuer-changing-loue, and desire the end of my hope, which is onely enioyment.

What is her name (said the Princesse?) Men call her *Apheleis*: with which word, he thunder-struck the Princesse in such sort, that passion, breaking the bonds of reason, she could not forbear, but with a loud voyce cry'd, *Hæ*; at which emphasis, wisedome control'd her admiration, and smothering her displeasure, till it had gotten more ripenesse; with wordes, suitable to a constrain'd patience, she said:

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Wher-

## *The second part of the first Booke*

Where (gentle Sheepheard) did your first acquaintance take knowledge of that Nymph?

At Minerua's Spring (answered he:) Upon what day (said she?) Upon Minerua's feast (quoth hee) at what time, the euening wooing the Sunne to abate much of his brightness; she, with many of her sisters, re-sorted to the holy Well, where they sung, and danc't so rarely about it, that neither Fairy, nor Angel, but might haue learnt perfection from her motions.

What fauour (said the Princesse) did she giue you? I, now you touch my doubtful vexation (said he;) she gaue me this pretious and wel-wrought Iewel which I weare for her, in which is curiously purtraid, by the hand of an vnmatchable worke-man, the boundlesse bounding spheres of heauen, which with their continuall motions, runne eternally about the earth, within the brightness of which Firmament is written *Manens Mancer*, an Enigma Father, which your wisedome, onely, must make me understand.

It seemes ( said the Princesse ) her iealousy mistrusts your faithfulnessse. Do you not loue some other Nymph besides her? No Nymph (quoth he) on earth but her. Take heed (said she) reuolt is enemy to all vertuousnesse. By heauen and earth (quoth he) And as his mouth was euен big swolne with execrations, shce stopt them in his Throate, saying: O for mercies sake, sonne, do not sweare, they blasphemē which teach that *Joue* respects not louers periuries; beleue it, thunder had not bene made, had it not bene to reuenge such faithlessnessse; Why the oaths of louers, are the Carols of Angels, so that the Gods

## *Of the English Arcadia.* 6

Gods themselues keepe them in an eternall memory: And as she was pursuing this speech, he interrupted her earenestnesse saying.

Father, resolution, that should euer bee armed with wisedome; and that wisedome which euer should direct vs in a vertuous path, when wee stand before such holy ones as your selfe, fortifies me so strongly, that here I dare boldly vow, in the sight of heauen and earth, and as I hope for enioyment of the ioyes my soule desireth, by the faire spring which is the luster of our first profits; and by those dry seasons which preserue our Flockes from perishing, I loue on earth no Nymph but *Apheleia*.

Shal I say it was a rage? no her patience was victor ouer such passions. Shall I say it was a iealous enuy? no, her temperance was never acquainted with such furies. Shall I say it was a violence vnbounded which then ceaz'd on the Princesse? no her wisedome was euer greater then her affections? But it was an unkind griefe; or a griefe mixt with so much ouer-maistring vnkindnesse, that she, not being able any longer to endure his vnnaturall apostacy, throweth the Hermites weede from her backe, and like the Sunne appearing from the darke cold Ocean, she discouers her owne natiuue beames in their worthiest perfection; yet her minde, so gouern'd by a sorrow which was like anger, that euen in the casting off her disguise, she said.

Can heart or eares endure this falsehood? thou Traytor to vertue, loue, and the life of Ladies; thou false, disloyall, and the most perjur'd of all Sheepe-heards: thou canker of affection, thou impostura-

## The seconde Part of the first Booke

tion vpon the eye of goodnesse; thou to whom no  
Epithiron can be giuen euall with thy wickednesse.  
I pray thee pardon mee, thyne euill hath made my  
tongue much more euill; indeed I haue not hereto-  
fore bene acquainted with rayling, it is the madnesse  
of my passion, not the fault of my nature; excuse it  
with thyne owne crime, and onely to thee that art  
the worst of man, here me yttre these few complai-  
nings.

Didst thou not once, with a minde (in mine ap-  
pearance) well settled and preiudicte, sweare by thy  
Sheepeheards crooks, (the ensigne of thy profession)  
by thy Bow and Darts, (the instruments of thy plea-  
sure;) and by the Deity of *Minerva* (the Patronesse  
of our *Tempe?*) Nay, hast thou not cal'd euery  
Planet to witnesse, and inuok't euery Starre to beare  
record, that no creature but my selfe had place in  
thine affection? and art thou now thus suddainely  
trans-form'd- and disfigured? Beleue it, thy Sheep-  
ooke will no more performe it's office, and thy  
Bow will breake when thou takest most delight in't,  
*Minerva* will spit thee from her walkes; the Planets  
will runne in opposition with thy fortunes; and the  
Starres will droppe from heauen before they will  
giue light to thy foote-steps, O *Aphelesia*, *Aphelesia*, I  
made a scorne of thy modest seriousnesse, but the  
disgrace is fixed on mine owne countenance: Did  
I, vnkind Sheepe-heard, (wrath would terme thee  
worse) discouer all that past betwixt that vertuous  
Nymph and my selfe, in the holy *Fane* of our God-  
desse, that thereby thou should disgrace and deride  
me? Do but call into thy remembrance (if thy me-  
mory

## *Of the English Arcadia.*

7

mory haue left in it any seate for goodnessse) the aduancements I haue giuen thee; ranking thee before the best worth, and making thee most worthy in mens prais, that art all vnworthiness in thine owne nature: For thy sake, the mirrour of all wit and perfection, the most deseruedly-admired *Thirsis*, he that hath euer flowne with his owne plumes, whome men adore for his owne goodnessse, not for the countenance of greatnessse; whose vnlimited affection is the schoole of true loue; whose noble constancy makes the two poles ioy in their firmenesse; and whose faith, like the Sunne, liues euer without a companion: He, euen he, whose sorrowes hath bred sorrow in all things which haue fense; was for thee, heart-slaine, forsaken, and despised: What shall I say, my big-swelne heart will breake with thy presence; shane eie poysons my eie like the Cockeatrice, I pray thee depart and leau me. Nay, why stirrest thou our Shaine, and our debts, make vs euer abandon company; and who more laden with both then thy selfe? O let them carry thee, where not so much as eccho may be acquainted with thee.

During all this speech, the courtly inconstanc *Diasaffax*; not, as if hee had seene the deformednesse of *Medusa*, but, as if all the beauties of heauen and earth had bene gathered together in one face, and that made onely his obiect: Stood like a Marble statue, stiffe, staring, and vnmou'd; now he imagines her fairer then she was, (though no excellency was able to adde to her perfection) onely her grieved bashfulness in blushes made the roses of her cheekes a little more glorious; and her displeased

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anger

## *The second part of the first Booke*

anger, accompanied with palenesse, made her lillies  
seeme whiter then Nature would imitate: Now his  
amzement calis his heart a recreant, and vowes, but  
in her, there is no delight nor felicity; faine would  
he speake, but shame keepes him tongue-tide; faine  
would he find excuse, but truth stands a witnesse  
against him; faine would he beg mercy, but dispaire  
keepes an account of his merits: To bee briefe, in  
her countenance he beholds so much glorious in-  
dignation, that but by his death, onely, he can  
yeeld her no satisfacion: Yet in the end, beholding  
her ready to depart, desirous to let her know his  
grieve, for his ingratitude, he staies her by her gar-  
ments, and falling to the earth, vpon his knees, hee  
said.

Thou best of the best of diuine creatures, O be  
gracious to my last of miseries, vouchsafe me a mo-  
ment in thy memory, and howsoeuer my falsehood  
and vnworthinesse hath dis-figured my fortunes, yet  
let the suddainenesse of my death be a mittigation,  
though no satisfaction; beleue it, these teares shall  
neuer cease, till they haue gal'd me to the bone, and  
bred cankerous ulcers to consume me; nor shall my  
sighes haue easy passage from my heart, till hauing  
wasted my bloud, they split it in many peecees; yet  
before I perish thus strangely, pardon, ô pardon,  
I beseech thee, this first offence that euer I commit-  
ted against loue, vertue, or thee; be like the Gods in  
quality as in beauty, so shall mercy euer be predo-  
minant in thee; see, Lady, thele hands I lift to hea-  
uen and you, which with weakenesse, that issues  
from my shame, feebly fall backe againe; if you  
please

please to prolong the torment of your displeasure, I yeeld to the sharpenesse of your sentence, and when dispaire hath banisht pity all mediation, my willing death shall publish my recantation; and as heo was thus speaking, she violently drew her garments from him, and with a countenance, which might giue him knowledge she was more and more offended, she said.

For euer may that enchanting engine of thy speech be dumbe when it should plead for pity; and whensoeuer myne cares shall receive that sound, let them loose the sence of all sounds whatsoeuer. And this said, away she went from his presence, like a Westerne gale kissing the checkes of the spring-tides flowers, leaving the Sheepheard euen distraught with discontentment, and the Nymph *Ethere* to repaire those disorders which this Stratageme had bred in my Cell.

When the two-fold louing *Dusaffan* saw the Princesse was vanisht beyond the leuelt of his eyes, and that the truth of his iudgement had taken a perfite suruey of her perfections: (for we scldome misse good things till we haue lost them) his loue so doubled and encreased, that where before, in the blisse of his enioymant, his affection burnt in a milde temper, now it rages in an vnplacable flame, and is borne with such violence, that nothing accompanieth his thoughts but sorrow, melancholy, and desperation. Now iealousy gets a seate in his braffie, and makes him contrive a thousand projects to prevent *Thirſſ* from aspiring to his wishes; now he will die to satisfie her in the power where-withall his displeasure

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

sure doth governe him; and then againe, he will liue  
to make amends for his errour, by some noble and  
worthy seruice: thus variously carried vpon the Oce-  
an of his distempered thoughts, with armes folded,  
heart sighing, and eies dropping, hee takes his way  
towards his Cabinet, at euery step cursing his for-  
tune, and accusing the Nymph *Ethera*'s counsell, as  
the ground of his vtter confusion; but he had not  
gone farre in his way, before he might behold the  
Nymph *Aphelia*, comming to encounter him; which  
apprehension when he had receiued, he presently  
forsakes his direct path, and turnes into a way, which  
to her way was most contrary; she (not imagining  
the notice he had taken) crosses his path, and had al-  
most attain'd an encounter, but he instantly hunte  
another way, and so, like two running in a maze two  
contrary waies, they shunne and pursue, and being  
nearest, are furthest asunder; which needlesse and  
impertinent winding when the Nymph perceiued,  
and knew he had both beheld her person, and taken  
notice of her desire; yet like a wanton fire fled still  
from her presence, with a minde, easily apted to take  
any impression of iealousy, she stands still, and giues  
way to his fancy, of which her troubled minde makes  
diuers constructions; her feare shewes her many  
strange beauties of which he might be enchanted; her  
feuerer iudgement calst to her consideration youths  
wanton vnstaydnesse, and revoltes in affection; one-  
ly reason, which is ever the sworne friend to vertue,  
perswades her that against reason goodnessse will  
neuer runne into any disgracefull errour, and that  
this strangenesse in behauisour, might spring from  
the

## Of the English Arcadia. 9

the affaires of profite, and not from the coldnesse of affection; and with this imagination, being content to be satisfyed with an in-sufficient satisfaction, she returnes to her Cell; where it was hard to iudge, whether Jealousy, or Wisedome, had greater sway in her meditations.

By this time, the night had clos'd vp the eie of the day, at what time, the Nymph *Esthera* hauing attir'd me in the forme she first found me, made her retурne to the lodge of the Princesse; into whose presence when she was arriued, she found her so much ouer-come with all the torments of a troubled imagination; and so much pleased to yeeld to the worst euill that griefe or affliction would impose vpon her, as the Nymph infinitely repented the good she had done, seeing the accidents so euill which depended on the same; yet before she could open her mouth, either to comfort, or excuse, the Princesse said,

O *Esthera*, he is false, indeed hee is falfe, nay hee is false beyond all the degrees of falsehood, and then her gentle heart sent forth a volly of sighes, the least of which had bene able to batter the life of a much stronger constitution; but the subtile Nymph *Esthera* hauing called all her best of knowledges together, and finding a little detestation planted in the Princesse heart, to which she was most willing to giue a roote of perpetuall continuance, with well ordered words, she thus said vnto her.

Madam, though affection be said to haue but one eie, which is euer applied to the obie&t of his vertuous desire; yet is that eie so to be gouerned by the discretion of an vncontrouleable wisedome, that

D

neither

## The second part of the first Booke

neither dishonour nor disparagement haue any dependence in our wils election; for if our passions shall transport vs not onely to loose our natvie freedome (a Lewell, for which the *Romanes* would giue their liues most freely) but also annex to that losse, a certayne incertainte of any felicity to accompanie our liues. What madnesse shall remaine in our monuments? And what scorné shall dwell on our vnfollowed examples? chiefly where either fate, time, or iudgement, hath discouered the mischeife, hanging in *Dionysius* haire ouer vs: This, deere Lady, I speake to you, who knowing the worst of euils which can annoy your fortunes, haue the large liberty of free will to cleare any cloud which can oppose your sun-shine: You know *Diasaffan* is false and inconstant, *Thirsis* true and immouable; *Diasaffan* hath his fancy clad in all colours, *Thirsis* faith hath but one roabe, and it is so purely white that it cannot be sullied; *Diasaffan* loues onely himselfe and his owne delights, *Thirsis* none but *Melidora*, and her most renowned vertues; to conclude, *Diasaffan* hath a gruice for every seuerall beauty, *Thirsis* owes homage to none but one singular rarenesse. Now Madame, if this diuersity of goodnessse be betweene these persones; why shold not an equall diuersity in fortunes follow their aduancements? It is things of like nature and quality whicheuer do best co-here and agree together, neuer shall wee see contraries in onefubieit then to avoid the imputations which in him you behold to be most hatefull, embrace the vertues of the other whiche are admires of all creatures: But you will say every character

## Of the English Arcadia. 10

racter in *Diasaffan* both his outward and inward behauours presents the figures of a noble descent: and what staine is there in *Thirsis*, which showes him not to be much more heroicall? Hee is a stranger in our walkes ( though of longer continuance ) as well as the other, and may, for any thing we can gaine say, draw his linage from the height of Deity; then sith they be both incertame, why should not our opinions haue a charitable construction? as for the vertues of their mindes they hold no comparison, for *Diasaffan* speaking much, oft marres it with curiosity; *Thirsis* speech, being euer confin'd to necessity, inchants his auditors with the admiration of his wisedome; as for their active vertues, either in games of force or mastery, or in sports of pleasure and activity, I need not say which is best, sith there was never equality in their doings. It then ouer wils do will things euer which are accounted best, and our natures apt to boast any thing whiche is most pretious; then (good Madam) cast not away the smal, round, orient Pearle, and preserue the shell, because it shines, and is much the larger. I pray thee, (said the Princeffe, interrup-  
ting her discourse) for patience sake, make an end of thy bitternes, thou dost but adde a drop of oile to an vnquenchable fire; I am resolu'd, and my vowes are gone vp to heauen, so that when mine eies shall youchsafe him the imagination of a fauour, let them loose their seeing; and when my heart shall consent to any thing but a charitable pity of his misfor-  
tunes, may it be as barren of good thoughts, as he is of loyalty.

O but (said the Nymph) shall *Thirsis* receive any

D 2

merite

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

merite, for his long endurances? Alas (said the Prin-  
cess) thou dost aske me vnreconcilable questions, I  
may as wel giue thee solution what counsels are held  
in the Parliament of the Gods, as tell thee what mit-  
tigation shall come to his sorrow. Why Madame  
(said the Nymph) haue you not free-will? Yes (said  
*Melidora*) to thinke, but not to publish my thoughts;  
for sooner shall a thousand deaths, with a thousand  
scuerall torments, bring me to a disgracefull monu-  
ment, then I wil either to the world discouer so much  
weakenesse as to change in a moment; or to make e-  
lection of him, whom with such violence I haue so  
many yeares despised; I will not brand my faith with  
that oblique, to possesse it with two obiects in one  
season, nor giue enuy that aduantage to imagine that  
mine alteration sprung from mine own ends; besides,  
my former scornes haue setled so much dispaire in  
the heart of *Thirssis*, that except I should grow neere-  
ly familiar with impudence, and my selfe discouer  
what my selfe would haue closest conceal'd; it is im-  
possible that he should, once more, dare to attempt  
me with the tender of his seruice. True Madame  
(quoth the Nymph) both this, and all the rest of your  
most worthy considerations, are excellent and vn-  
refellable; honour, like a bold champion, maintaining  
them against all Art, wit, or enchanting-oratory; yet  
Madame vnder the patience of your better resolu-  
tions, I can, from my braine, deliuier such a Stra-  
tageme, that you shall, by the hand of fate, be freed  
from the opportunities of *Diasaffan* without any  
publicke shew of your owne distemperance, and en-  
joy the seruice of *Thirssis* by a seeming constraint,  
against

## Of the English Arcadia.

II

against any desire or wish of your creation. The Prin-  
cess at these words, being drawne into a litle admires;  
yet, through her former acquaintance with her wise-  
dome, in things of like nature, apted by an easie im-  
pression to giue beliefe to her protestation, with a  
negligent earnestnesse, she intreated her to discouer  
the deuice; giuing assurāce, that if neither her honor,  
place, nor modesty might by the feuerity of iudge-  
ment be rackt to imputation, that she would giue full  
way and assistance to the vttermost of her project.

Then Madame (quoth the Nymph) it is not vn-  
knowne to your selfe, to vs, to *Tempe*; nay, to all *Thes-  
salie*, that no Sheepheard, Nymph, Satyr, or Fairy,  
for swiftnesse of foot, and true Art in each feuerall  
chase, for perfect skill in darting, and nimble vse of  
the Bow, is able to compare with your greatnessse;  
*Diana*, as it were, hauing giuen you her quiuier, and  
*Apollo* his bow, with which he triumphed ouer *Pyu-  
thon*: onely *Thirsis* alone excepted, who in priuate  
exercise (though not in publique triumph) hath euer  
gone beyond you in those noble maisteries. Your  
excellence therefore shall cause it to be proclaimed  
through all *Tempe*, that in honour of our great God-  
desse *Minervas*, you will, vpon the first day of this en-  
suing moneth, hold a solemne and most glorious fe-  
stiuall; in which day you will haue the Tyger lodged  
and chased by all the Sheepheards, Forresters, and  
Groomes belonging to these Launds; and if any  
creature can either ouer-run you in the chase, or  
strike his dart in the Tyger before yours be fastened  
in his skin; he shall, for the glory of his conquest,  
enjoy you for his perpetuall Mistresse; and you him,

D 3

for

## *The second part of the first Fooke*

for an eternall servant: And to stirre vp vertue(which many times sleepes i i obscure creatures) you shall propose diuers other prizes to be bestowed of the best deseruers,that no merit may go vn-rewarded.

When the Princesse had heard this deuice, and with a certaine silent amazement pondered in her consideration, the best and worst that might be derived from the inuention, taking a full knowledge of the drift to which all the Nymphes persuasions tended, which was no way different from the aime of her owne most priuate wishes, with a well-setled demureness, which seemed to oppose what shée had propounded, she gaue her this answere; If I had nothing (deere Esther) to respect more then my person (which now is growne vnto it selfe of most vyle estimation) I could then bee contented to embrace and prosecute thy counsell, and sell my selfe to a publique Mart,in hope that no man would esteeme me a lewell worth the cheapning. But when mine honour (which hitherto I haue not blotted with any thing) appeares vnto me attended with modesty and reputation; then nothing can beare a more deformed image, then this seeming vnwilling, yet most wilfull, giuing my selfe into the hands of fortune: for in it I publish to the world, I care not whom I haue, so one I haue; and that one, if it be the pleasure of Chance, may be full of all vnworthinesse, mine election being grounded neither vpon wisedome, loue, nor vertue, but vpon the nimblenesse of a deliuers foot, and a well-aiming hand, excellencies worthy our praises, but not our persons. Besides, what shall I be that day, more then a Sommer-games prize, a horses

horses Race-bell, or a Grey-hounds collar? which howsoeuer wonne with expence, is yet neglected in the keeping. Wee may imagine much in our owne fortitudes, and strengthen our hopes with our Arts, but there is a power aboue, which so disdaineth this temptation, that he often turnes them retrograde to our wils, and makes them our scales to affliction; yet forasmuch as from the Schoole of thy wisedome I haue received many infinite satisfactions; and haue not seen any, but most prosperous starres to accompany thy proceedings, I am contented wholly to be gouerned by thee, beseeching thee, by the loue thou bearest to immaculate chastity, and as thou wilt answere my disgrace, both before the world, and the great Goddesse whom we serue, so to direct all these aimes and resolutions into which thou intendest to ingage me, that I may, with a golden thrid of vnsold honour, passe through any laborynth which in my fortunes course shall oppose me: For be assured, whensoeuer I shall finde any imaginary scandall to intrude on my vertue, it shall be the last hower of my breath and continuance. And here she paused, with an earnest fix vpon the eyes of the Nymph, who taking her by the delicate hand, and kissing it, intreated her highnesse to be confident in her carefullnesse, vowed vpon herselfe a death most violent, when any of her projects should hazard her disgragement; and from these protestations it was concluded, that the proclamation in selfe same forme as she had formerly deliuered it, should forth-with bee proclaimed through all *Tempes*; and likewise sent into *Arcadia*, with safe conduct to all *Sheepheards*, and *Forresters*

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

Forresters which would try their fortunes ; but with great penalties of strange deaths to any that should appeare and be found of better ranke or quality.

And this was no sooner resolued, but it was put in execution by the iolly Nymph ; who hauing commission from the Princesse, made euery feuerall Officer, both Sheepheard and Woodman, in their seuerall walkes, proclaime the same with great state & solemnity ; so that there was not an eare in *Tempe*, which had not receiued the sound thereof : onely *Diasaffan*, whom care and shame, or a carefull shamefastnesse, had all this while imprisoned in his Cabinet, where he lay tormenting and afflicting himselfe with all the calamities of a disturbed and a perplexed minde, receiued this newes, but by an incertayne secundary report, and that with such imperfect and contrary relations, as the truth thereof could finde no serled place in his vnderstanding : so that desirous to know what rumour said euery one knew, he rises from his wearied couch (which he had presed as much with his woes as his owne burden) and walkes forth with steppes heauy and slow (suitable to his sad soule) into the next neigbouring fields, and there, with much search, at last he found out his onely best of friends, the discreet yong Sheepheard *Melis*, one in whose bosome he had euer inclosed the richest secrets of his loue ; and in whose counsels he had found such sweet contentment, being euer dierious to prosperous fortunes, that no commerce was so pretious or welcome vnto him, as the enioyment of his company.

As saone as they were met together, and had discharged

charged vpon each other, whole vollies of loue, in most respectiue complements, their caressings being mixed with many embracements, in the end *Diasaffan* enquired of *Melio* the tenor of those proclamations which in a doubtfull maner had but as yet touched his eares; and *Melio* from poynt to point declared the whole substance of the same, relating the solemnity of the ceremonies in the performance thereof, and the seuerity of euery Officers charge not to neglect or forefloy his best diligence in the publication thereof. Then *Diasaffan* demanded, if this were done by the consent of the Princesse, and he was answered, that all things were performed by her most especiall commission. Then he enquired who should be iudge if any doubtfull controuersie should arise; and the Sheepheard told him onely the faire Nymph *Apheleia*.

Thus when he had receiuied every certainty and circumstance, and had with his disturbed thoughts drawn into a serious consideration the ends of these vnaccustomed proiects; his heart, as if it would haue split in sunder, began to ouer-grow his dwelling-place; and had not many throbbing sighes, vttered with huge painfulnesse, a little abated the swelling, he had there falne downe dead at his amazed friends foot. But tyrannous sorrow, vnwilling he should so soone shake hands with his misery, being Mistres of all his fences, made them extend their powers, and bring back reason and remembrance to their former mansions,whilst the sheepheard,with armes crossed, and fould about his bosome, said to his friend; Ha *Melio*! I haue already numbred all my dayes of de-

E light,

## The second part of the first Booke

light, and now see nothing but sorrow and calamity before me, with whom I must walke to an early, and despised graue; and it is good reason I do so, sith I am a wretch, whom all vertue and goodness hath forsaken.

*Melio*, amazed to heare these words proceeding frō him, whom he had euer taken to be Fortunes chiefest Minion, said; Doth not too great abundance of happiness (my deere Sheepheard) make thee complaine of pouerty in blessednesse? If it do, beware; for thou mayst by such ingratitudo, draw vpon thee the displeasure of the Gods; chiefly when they see their great fauours vnthankfully neglected: What canst thou wish which thou doest not enjoy? Thou hast fruitfull walkes, couered with more fruitfull Cattell, whose increase and profit makes thee liue more in the rich mans enuy, then need. Thou hast the loue of thy neighbours, and admiration of strangers: Thou hast no want, if not in an immeasurable wish; nor no store which may make ambition lay plots for thy ouerthrow: aboue all, and which is such a superlatiue height aboue all happiness, thou hast the only grace and fauour of the most great, most vertuous, and most admired Princesse of the world.

O say not so (said *Diasafan*) but say I am despised, forlorne, and in the highest measure disdained of the onely best, and most compleatest in perfection, that euer Nature brought forth, or the earth injoyeth. Ha my *Melio*! when hath thy iudgment (which was my Tutor to all happiness) been so darke in its vnderstanding, that it should say, it doth not behold the brightness of sun-shine? Alasse (deere friend)

my

*Of the English Arcadia.*      14

my cloudy sorrowes do behold the drift of the Princesse in her serious proclamation; to me it is known, (though to others, peraduenture, concealed) that of all the Sheepheards either in *Tempe*, or in *Arcadia*, there is none, either for lightnesse of foot, or skilfull hand in deliuering her dart, able to compare with the Princesse, *Thirsis* onely excepted; who in many private tryals I haue seene rarely exceed her: so that in as much as once for my sake she did despise him, now for my disgrace, she will, out of a will, seeming most vnwilling, onely entertaine him.

If that (quoth *Melio*) be the end of her stratagem, she will finde herselfe infinitely deceiued in her purpose: For *Thirsis* (alacke for pitty) is fast enough, and neither can come to try his fortunes in her Conquest, nor give the least blow of despaire to thy wishes.

Alasse! (said *Diasaffan*) what fortune is befallne to that good swaine? Why, haue you not heard (said *Melio*) of *Mysantropos* the great Magitian? he that in the vale, which for his sake is entitled Miserable, hath erected an enchanted house of an immeasurable circumference, in which he holds in prison, with torments most vnspeakable, all that euer set their feet within his charmes; especially louers, whose howling lamentations hee vowes to exceed all musicke whatsoeuer.

Yes (said *Diasaffan*) I haue heard of him oft, and haue from a farre beheld his tyrannous mansion. But what of him (good Sheepheard) I pray thee?

Why this (said *Melio*) As the poore afflicted, and most miserable *Thirsis* went wandring vp & downe

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

the woods, casting forth vnto the echoing rockes,  
the grieuous accents of vnsupportable calamities,  
striuing to make insensible things sensible of his an-  
guish, with a carelesnesse descending from a care too  
carefully employed, and forgetting all things but his  
woes, which were euer awake in his bosome, all vna-  
wares he fell within the vnloosable bonds of the Ma-  
gitians most diuellish coniurations, & now remaines  
a slau to those tormentes, which we may imagin, but  
not comprehend in the compasse of any imaginati-  
on, to the generall griefe of all swaines, and the vtter  
subuersion of all pastorall delights whatsoeuer.

Yet (said *Diasassan*) doth not his imprisonment giue  
my hopes any comfort; for sith none but he alone  
can win her, none but he alone shall triumph in her  
victory.

Yes (said *Melio*) Fortunes wheele hath many ioints,  
and every ioint hath a severall winding; therefore  
this once let thy will be directed by my counsell; I  
know the insufferable and vnspeakeable tormentes  
which the euer-to-be-pittied-*Thirsis* indureth, are so  
much beyond the strength of mans sufferance, that  
the onely way to binde him to thee in a chaine of e-  
ternall & euerlasting friendship, and to make his ser-  
uice a dutifull tribute to thy pleasure, is to procure  
him new liberty, and to shake his heart-root sorrows  
from his macerated bosome.

O my *Melio* (said *Diasassan*) didst thou not heare the  
late mischance of unfortunate *Melibens*, who going  
the other day to cary fodder to his flockes, whō hunger  
had almost starued, as the carefull sheepheard began  
with his foot to rake away the snow, that hee might,  
with

## *Of the English Arcadia.*

15

with lesse losse, lay their food on the earth, he chanst to find a snake halfe dead, & halfe aliue; at which, the tender-harted sheepheard being assailed with much pirty, to behold the gasps which the grieved creature gaue, being by the violence of the cold brought to the last moment of destruction, he took it vp, & with his warme hand put it into his warmer bosome, thence brought it home, and with gentle strokings gently bath'd it before the fire; but when the warmth had thaw'd the frosty fense of the sicke creature, and brought backe that life which was almost vtterly fled for euer; the ingratefull Snake forgetfull of all goodnessse, how carefully soever bestowed, stung the poore Sheepheard as he plai'd with it; euен so, if by mine industry I should giue new life and liberty to the desolate *Thirsis*, I feare, that loue would bring that forgetfulnessse into his minde, which would soone bring a subuersion to me and my fortunes.

Fie, (said *Melio*) how doth feare fully thy most generous and noble nature, making thee iealous of the most compleate goodnessse, Li tell thee, *Thirsis*, stood a thousand deaths before him, would cast himselfe head-long amongst them, ere his thankefull nature should be blemisht with ingratitude; hee is the modell on which Nature lookes when shee makes any thing excellent, but not being able to giue euery part his perfection; for anger, she throwes her works rudely into the world, whence it comes, that many haue particular good qualities, but none compleate to bee compared with *Thirsis*, Therefore, let my knowledge of his vertue bee thy fortresse against suspition.

E 3

Then.

## *The second part of the first Booke*

Then (said *Diasaffan*) what shall I do when I haue deliuered him from the danger of his bondage?

Thou shalt (replyed the Sheepheard) with all the priuacy that night or wisedome can containe, conuey him home to thine owne Cabinet, and there containe him with all care and contentment till the day of triumph, at which time, thou shalt adorne him in all thine owne furniture, and according to thy custome arme him in these light peeces, which thou hast vsually worne in the like masteries, whereby his face being concealed, none shall bee able to accuse his policy; which done, thou shalt keepe close, and send him forth as thy person, fame hauing formerly blaz'd to the world, that the loyalty of thy loue hath moued thee that day to try thy fortune with the Princesse. Now when *Thirsis* hath accomplit all that thou canst wish, and brauely, vnder thy shadow, made himselfe most viatorious, he shall returne againe to thy lodge, and possessing thee with thy owne habite, thou shalt come forth, and challenge the benefit of the Proclamation. *Diasaffan* hearing this devise (which bred infinite contentment in his minde) was, notwithstanding, so fearefully doubtfull of euery feare which might bee annexed to the danger of these passages; that once more hee demanded of his friend, if hee could, by any possibility, bee perswaded that *Thirsis* would proue iust in this action, who againe, with many violent reiterations gaue him assurance that *Thirsis* hate was as great to ingratitude as vnto damnation: But then *Diasaffan* told him, how deereley *Thirsis* loued the Princesse, the violence of which affection

he

hee fear'd, would breake all the lawes of nature, friendship, vowes, or gratefulnesse. *Melio* halfe angry to see the strength of his infidelity, told him that he must either beleeue, or let his mis-believe beare him to ruine, for (quoth he) you must either win her by him, or by your owne vertue; in your selfe there is no hope, in him there is certaine assurance; then, sith your owne will must make your owne choice, do what you list, for I shall be pleased with any election.

*Diasaffan*, loath to give distast to him, whose aduise had euer directed him in his best actions, after many excuses for the doubtfulnesse of his belief, with assurance to pursue, with all earnestnesse, the vttermost of his directions, besought him to instruct him by what meanes he might compasse the liberty of the most desolate sheepheard.

To which *Melio* replying, demanded of him, if he knew not *Elpino* the most famous musycall sheepheard? And he answered him, that he knew him well: Why then (said *Melio*) Know that *Titerus*, the great Mayster of all Pastorall Melody; who amongst the cunning Sheepheards was made euen diuine for his knowledges, hauing taken more instructions from *Apollo* then the God of Sheepheards, he, when he died, gaue his pipe vnto *Elpino*, whom with much tendernesse he loued aboue all the Swaines in *Arcadia*, and taking his leaue of him, before death had made him take his last leaue of the world; he with painefull care taught him all the worthy secrets which belonged thereunto, instructing his fingers diuers waies how to touch it for diuers vertuous purposes; amongst

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

amongst the rest, he told the Sheepheard, how that Pipe was giuen vnto him by the great God *Pan*, and was composed of that Reede, into which faire *Syrinx* (whom he loued) was by his Diety conuerted, whence it springs, that it doth, and shall for euer retaine this vertue; By the onely sounding thereof the force of all magick and enchantment shall cease, the gates of hell it is able to vnloose, and will make that rocke dance in the hands of destiny; by this alone (quoth he) I haue deliuered many distressed Sheepheards from the tyranous inquisition-house of the neuer satisfied *Mysantropos*, Now then my Sheepheard, seeke out *Elyno*, and by thy suite, and thankefull offertories procure him to worke this euer to be praised enlargement.

*Diasaffan* gave him a world of thankes for his counsels, and then kissing his cheeke, he assured him that hee would put the hazard of all his fortunes vp-on the hope of *Thirsis* vertue; and so they departed, *Melio* to his Flockes, whom the calme warme wea-ther made to straggle on the mountaines, and *Diasaffan* to seeke out *Elyno*, from whom he had hope to compasse the first part of his wishes.

Rumour, which like a City watch-bell, is euer tugling vpon the least occasion, had by this time sounded through all *Tempe* the alarum of *Thirsis* misfortune; so that the repetition thereof comming to the eares of the Princesse, she beganne to entayne a new griefe more sharpe and peircing then any where-with shee had bene formerly acquainted, for till now, shee neuer would suffer her heart to know how excellent and perfic he was in euery goodnessse.

This

This griefe, when she saw it would perforce conquer her best temperance; with all secreſy ſhe issues from her Lodge, and went vnto the Cell of the Nymph *Eþers*, whom ſhe found buſily employed about the affaires of the day triumphant; and making her deſift from her labour, after many ſighes, which blew vp ſome showers of ſmall teares, ſhe reported vnto her the moſt miſerable miſfortune and lamentable miſchance, which was beſalne the poore ſtarre-croſt *Thirſis*, in ſuch large and ample manner as her eares had formerly receiued it, ſaying.

O my *Eþers*, how is there now any hope left, ei-ther to bring thy purpoſes to paſſe, or to grant to my minde any honourable ſatisfaction? What end now will iſſue of thine inuention, more then an airy no-thing? Mine honour lying proſtitute to the hazard of euery vnworthy deſtiny, whilſt vertue it ſelfe liues in bondage vnder the tyrauous hand of euer-liuing-torments.

*Eþera* taking into her eares this ſtrange ſound of *Thirſis* miſery, whose deſpaire brought a generall deſpaire to al her purpoſes whatſoever; was ſo amazely ſtrucken with a ſilent wonder, and ſo opprefſed with grieſe to behold the preuention of her vertuous deſignes, that her ſences, ready to forſake the ſate of her underſtanding, had almoſt made her fall downe in a ſwound, at the foote of the Princesſe; but conſideration, ſtrengthened by wiſedome, calling them backe to their true offiſes, and inſtructing her mind that the example of her grieſe, mighet bring to the Princesſe, a deſpaire, troublſomely vnmoueable, with a countenance much contrary to her thoughts,

## *The second part of the first Booke*

and smiling, when the teares were ready to leape from her eyes, she said.

Madam, the bond of charity, which is the rule that swayeth every worthy minde vnto pitty; if there were no other tie to make me commiserate his fortunes, is sufficient to stir in me a grieve some-what more potent then every ordinary distemperature, and so much the rather in that I know the afflictions which he indureth (vnder that monster of liuing creatures, the neuer-enough-tormenting *Mysantropos*) are greater then may passe vnder the title of greatest calamity; yet, that this should either bring despaire to our present action, or make me repent my purpose, into which I haue with all willingnesse imbarke my reputation, there is neither reason to imagine, nor wisedome to defend; for this most haplesse misaduenture, shall bring better garments to our designe, and strengthen our desire with that assurance, which your former disdaine, and his obedient carefulness might else haue made doubtfull.

Thou hast a minde (said the Princesse) like the *Lernian* monsters heads, for when thou hast one hope taken from thee, their springs two better in the place to defend thy vndertakings; yet, I pray thee beware of this *Hercules*, despaire, least in the end hee make our ruine his conquest.

Fearc not, Madam, (said the Nymph) for if your confidence will but suite with my care, no occurrent shall go amisse which is any thing allyed to the proiect wee follow; And therefore briefly thus, you shall giue liberty to the distressed Swaine, and in despight of hell, and the snares of entangling night-

night-spels, you shall deliuer him from that wretchednes, which euen wretchednes it selfe, is not able to imitate; A worke, wherein you shall not onely gaine from men an honourable commendations, but also pay that great debt of thankefulnesse with a large interest, which whilst it is vnsatisfied cloathes you with an neglect, much like to ingratitude; For Lady, he once, not onely sau'd your life, but your honour, a Iewell, whose losse no breath can counteruaile.

I vnderstand your desire (said *Melidora*,) but I vnderstand not the meanes to effect it; for it sufficeth not to say, thus I shall do, but thus I must do. And then the Nymph deliuered to her, at large, the manner how to procure his liberty, inciting her to go to the Temple of *Minerva*, where she should finde the worthy Nymph *Nerina*, whose office was to beare the holy Speare of the martiall Goddesse, being a virgine of such exquisite perfection, that the Goddesse *Pallas* had giuen vnto her more rare giftes then to all other Nymphs attending her Diety, amongst which she had the power of vnloosing charmes, and breaking insunder the strongest linkes, where-with the Art of Magicke had power to bind any creature. To this Nymph therefore, with all speed, the Princesse (attended onely by the Nymph *Esthera*) made her repaire; and finding her reposing in an arbor of Eglantine, adioyning to the wals of the Temple (hauing newly finished the ceremonies of the Goddesse) with a sober and demure looke, which did rather figure grauity then anguish, the Princesse thus spake vnto her.

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

Most excellent and diuine hand-maid to our great Goddesse, to whom vertue hath not onely giuen an especiall prerogatiue, to make thee admired aboue all thy companions, but also settled thy renowne so deepeley in the booke of memory, that when time shall loose both his sythe & authority, yet the knowledge of thy goodnesse shall flourish most rarely; vouchsafe, I beseech thee, from that mercy which thou hast euer extended to miserable creatures, to grant me a request, which howsoeuer it may beget thy trouble, yet shall it maketh thy name to bee more and more worthily adored.

*Nerina*, noting the earnestnesse of the Princesse, whom shee had neuer before knowne acquainted with like solicitings, entreated her Highnesse to discharge from her brest the weight of her desire, and shee would assure her, that what vertue soeuer remained in her power, should both bee commanded and employed by her; then, said the Princesse.

Most sacred Maide, it is not vnknowne vnto all *Theſſaly*, and much more vnto *Tempe*, and these holy walkes; that when the cruell and blasphemous *Demogoras*, (the onely prophaner of our Rites, and disturber of the quietnesse we should posſeffe) had with a tyranous polluted hand ceazd on my person, with an entent to make it a prey both for his lust and fury, mine honour glutting the one, and my life the other, euen in that instant, when there was nothing but dispaire betweene me & my confusion, the Noble-minded *Thiris*, with an active resolution, far beyond his birth and profession; nor, onely deliuered mee from  
Shame

shame and danger, or the dangerous shame of a foule stayned destruction; but also brought mee to that safety, which gaue assurance to my minde, that all mine euils were banished from me: this benefite, as yet, I haue requited with nothing but disdaine and disacknowledging strangenesse; merits as much contrary to his deserts, as my neglect was contrary to a thankfull nature; which want, Fortune pitting in me, she hath now administred an occasion, whereby I may satisfie my great debt, and giue vnto the world a better satisfaction; for *Thirsis* is now a tormented prisoner in the enchanted Castle of the most cruell *Mysantropos*; from whence, if by thy meanes, I may procure his liberty, thou shalt not onely binde me in euerlasting loue-knots to be thy perpetuall admirer, but for euer possesse me as thine owne purchast creature.

The Nymph drawing into her consideration both the reasonableness and worthinesse of *Melidora's* intreay, made her this reply; Madame, there cannot be a more vertuous action, then the gratefull requitall of those benefits by which our liues and honors are preserued: nor can deformity couer our memo-ries with a more viler sepulcher then the neglect of that duty we owe to our benefactors; And hence it springs that you desire to restore him from the torments of *Mysantropos*, which freed you from the lust of *Demagoras*. But is your highnesse sure he is within that den of the vnmercifull Magitian?

Am I sure (said the Princesse?) Alasse for comfort! I am much too sure: for diuers of the discretest Sheepheards of our walkes being set vpon the

## *The second part of the first Booke*

tops of the mountaines, from whose aspiring heads they might behold the least secret obscurity in all the vallyes, saw how the forlorne and selfe-neglecting Sheepheard, wandred all carelesse vp and downe, neither fearing the sauage cruelty of devouring beasts, nor the hidden dangers which might lurke in those most vnhaunted pathes of desolation: In the end, when hee drew neere to the enchanted valley, whose verdure and counterfeit spring is able to entice a sence of the best iudgement, with shouts, clamours, and exclamations they gaue him warning of the peril into which he was falling, through the force of his melancholy: but he, like a constant Sheepheard, whose life-blood ran not within his owne veines, and the Organ of whose motion was ruled by a much higher mouer, neither heard, nor regarded, because in himselfe he had no regard of hearing; and so, to the amazement, and euен madde griefe of all his companions, he fell into that misery, whence, but by your helpe, there is no hope of release-  
ment.

Madame (said *Nerina*) although I know it is a worke of an impossible creation to execute the rule of the most wholesome counsell, when it struggles against, not onely the knowledge of our outward sences, but also holds a continuall combat both against the hope and maine ends of our affection; yet I beseech you in this designe, let neither your minde be gouerned by your eye, nor let the affection you beare to the comfortlesse Swaine, for the tribute of his former seruices, so inuch ouer-sway you, that by the directions of an vnskilfull imagination, you bring

bring both him and your selfe to a certaine destruction; but as you loue to enjoy the ioyfull end of your purpose, so in all things follow mine instructions, and they shall make you with safety arriue to the blest hauen of your wishes.

*Melidora* being heart-charmed with her persuasions, assured her that she would sooner fall into the hands of death, then faile in the least circumstance of her sleightest commandement; vowing that till this needfull busynesse were performed, neither her body nor minde should looke with any other eies, then such as had onely their light from her directions.

Vpon this faithfull protestation, *Nerina* tooke the Speare belonging to the great Goddesse *Minerva*, against whose point no proofe was able to resist and deliuered it into the white hand of the Princesse, commanding her, that neither for life nor death, she should suffer it to depart out of the same; For said the Nymph, it shall preserue you against all those eare-inchanting sounds where-with the Magician will seeme to rauish and distract you, and will so keepe your best knowledges in their accustomed seates, that no forgetfulness shall surprise or hinder your determinations: When your are come into the infortunate Valley, the sonne of darkenesse and mischance, accurst *Myvantropos*, will, by his great Nygromanticke skill so change and vnfigure his owne shape, and with such absolute perfection take vpon him all the shapes and dimensions of miserable *Thirsis*, that if you will giue credite to your eies, (who in that moment will be your onely enemies) your

## The second Part of the first Booke

your minde will not bee perswaded it can bee any other creature, then the Swayne you onely seeke to preserue, but putting all trust from your eies, and immaginary fancies, how faithfull seruants soever they haue bene to you in former times; step boldly vnto that false shape, and with this Speare strike him vnto the heart; and although, I know, that many agonies will stir vp many argumentes in your brest, forbidding you to kill whom you couet onely to saue, yet in that extremity banish all such motions, and the more you are moued to pitty, stirke with so much the more fury; and, beleue me, as I am fafhfull to the Goddesse whom I serue, so assuredly you shall slay the Monster *Mysantropos*, and set your perplexed Sheepheard at perfite liberty: This is the substance of all your charge, and this is the onely meanes for his deliuernace: good Lady, print it deepe in your memory, bee valiant, carefull, but not too-selfe-trusting.

To this speech, when the Princesse had engaged her best attention, and had euен printed in her soule each tittle of her charge, she promised the Nymph that al her words should be so carefully obeyed, that, compassing her desire, she would make all the world ring with her praises, and so taking their leavues with many ceremonious embracements, they departed, one from the other, *Nerina* into *Minerna's* Temple, and the Princesse with the Nyinph *Estera* to seek out the infortunate Vally; which, like every euill, was most easie to bee found, for the pathes which lead thereunto, were leuell, smoth, soft, and full of all manner of eie-delightfulness; The way, though much

much troden, was euer greene, being bordered on each side with all manner of flowers, whom Winter neuer toucht, but flourished farre beyond the works of best industry; onely they were full of pollution when they were handled, and noysome to smell to when indiscretion had gathered them: When they were come to the verge of the vnlucky Dale, for they might easilly know it by many characters which they had receiued, the Princesse tooke her leaue of the Nymph *Esbera*, (for there was no stepping her vndefended foote into that most certaine place of intollerable danger) yet before the Nymph would suffer her to depart, falling vpon her knees before her, shee most humbly besought her by all those vertuous coniurations which familiar intimacy begetteth in louing hearts; as by the great honor of her vnmatchable virginity, by the pleasure of her Bow, and her imitations of *Diana*, by her delight in the Pastorall life, and by those Eglogs, which, in her discourses, she had oft with great contentment rehearsed; that she would by no meanes forget the instructions of the Nymph, but either with resolution (as firme as her vowes of chastity) execute the vttermost of them, to the least haire, or tittle of their delination; or otherwise, if she found any faynting motion, or retractiue humour in her doubtfull spirit, to desist and proceede no further; for, it was, questionlesse, that vpon her least remissenesse there might spring danger to her person.

The Princesse, willing (had not her will better gouerned her) to haue bene angry with the Nymphis distrust of her resolution, told her, shee should not

## *The second part of the first Booke*

need to inchant her with any coniuration , for shee was never composed of such a weake inconstant humour , as to engage her selfe in so worthy an affaire, and then to let it faile through the feblenesse of a little selfe-beleefe , then which, there was nothing more vaine or imperfect.

And so embracing the Nymph, and binding her not to hold a more vnworthy opinion of her discretion, then hitherto her actions had giuen liberty, with a world of vnspeakeable kindnesse participated in each of their complements , they departed the one from the other; the Nymph to her Cell, and the Princesse into the infortunate Valley : Vpon whose Turfes, she could hardly say, she had well troden; when on every side , she was inuironed with all the delights that euer the open aire could boast of; the ground whereon shee trod appearing like needleworke , carpets checkered and imbossed with flow-ers of such various, yet well mixt collours, that Art and Nature seemed to haue bene most especiall friends in that peece of worke-man-ship; The melodi-ous Birds, seated vpon faire Cycamore-trees, (whose shadowy leaues were defences against the Sunne-shine) vttered their tunes with such cheerefull alacrity, that it was impossible for any humaine minde to heare them without destraction, the mur-muring Brookes playing vpon the pretty Peebles, mixt with golden sand , sent forth such a silent min-strelcy , that the water-Nymphs appeared aboue the bankes, weauing most curious Coronets of Sedge, Poppey, and Water-lillies, where-with they offered to crowne the head of euery wandring-passenger;

by

by the Bankes of the siluer streames lay the Lyon,  
the Panther, the Wolfe, and the Leopard , all with  
such a friendly community without any emulation,  
that it seemed, like the first of Gardens , full of no-  
thing but peace and delightfulness; vpon the Me-  
dowes trouled the light Hart, the nymble Bucke, and  
the fleete Roe, which in their coursing, and re-cour-  
sing so plaid about the Princesse , that had not her  
memory bene an excellent Tutor, shee would not  
haue forborne from throwing the Speare amongst  
them.

Thus, as shee traced along the path , which lead  
to the enchanted Castle, wondring at nothing, but  
that her wonder was no more increased ; shee came  
to that wood, wherein the hellish Cittadell was pla-  
ced, and coueting with more speedy steps to free her  
selfe from that obscurity, shee might behold many  
fearefull and hideous obiects , which obseruing the  
motion of her eies, tooke, as it were, delight to liue  
euer offending her sight: There might shee see Furies  
earcs Snakes from their heads , and throwing them  
at the bosomnes of afflicted people ; and in another  
place, woefull louers scourged and tormented with  
lashes of fire , whose flames could neuer bee extin-  
guished; Now would many-headed-monsters striue  
to impeach her in her further passage, and then pre-  
sently would most hideous acclamations seeke to  
diuert her steps into othercorners: But the Princesse,  
fortefyed with her confidence in the holy Speare,  
kept on her way without all amazement, for shee saw  
that whatsoeuer she did see were but illusorie sights,  
most meereley imaginary and insubstantiall; By this

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

time she was gotten through the darke Wood, and was now arriued in a most delicate little plaine, in the midst whereof stood the enchanted house, on whose stately Pinacles and strange Architec~~ture~~ure whilst with hungry eies she gazed, she supposed that no Art nor wealth had power to effect a worke of such rarenesse; no Masons but Iewellers, hauing bene worke-men in the same, for neuer was their curious inameled Ingot hung in the haire of faire Ladies, which could present the luster of artificiall perfecti~~on~~on, so amply, as the worst, and least-respected part of this building; but she had not gaz'd so long vpon this infernall worke that iudgement could say she had taken a full veiw of the same, when presently her eares were taken vp with such a strange sound of well-mixed musicke, that as if the Spheares had compast her about with their tunes; or the aire had bene nothing but a reporter of the rauishing songs of well pleased Angels, she was so amazedly distraught with delight, that had she bene without her holy defensitue, she had there perisht in her admiration; many times would shee cast her eies about, to see if shee could take knowledge from what Coast that Harmony proceeded, but she perceiued it still to be so generall; that like the Citry of *Thebes*, shee supposed all that earth to haue his foundation vpon Musicke; and as her immaginations were thus taliking to her fancies, vpon the suddaine she might see comming towards her the cruell Nygromancer; so like in eu~~ery~~ shape, feature, speech, and gesture, to the most miserablae *Thirsis*, that no sence, how curiosouer, was able to distinguish any difference betwene

## *Of the English Arcadia.* 23

betweene them; he came, as it seemed, led, inchain'd, and tormented by many sauage Furies, his vn-pitying executioners, who in midst of his vexations seemed scornefully to make themselues partners of his lamentes.

And now being come so neere, that her eies might iudge the difference betwixt their iniurieſ and his wordes, ſhe might perceiue that he ſung vnto her theſe Stanza's following; with rear'd vp hands, deiceted eies, humble countenance, and all the geſtures of a despairefull ſoule; that pitty, by the aſſiſtance of ſuch aide, was able to conquer the moſt adamantine breft of the cruelleſt flint-hearted.

*Lady draw neere, O let the golden fire  
which giues ſo greaſ a glory to your face,  
Reſolne, in time, the froſt of my deſire,  
And giue me light to put my clouds to chace:*

*Deere Lady, deere Lady, beſt Lady pitty mee,  
Beaſt I plaine, periſh and pine for thee.*

*Like to the Bird which tries her tender plumes,  
Before ſhe venture on too great a flight  
I follow you, but when my ſoule preſumes  
To mount, it fails againe through want of might:  
Deere Melidora, worldz-oy, pitty mee,  
Beaſt I plaine, periſh and dye for thee.*

Euen in the very midſt of theſe Stanza's, and when the words had imperfeſtly ſcarſe knit them and the ſence together, the Princesſe charged her Speare againſt his breft, and was ready to deliuere that blow

## *The second part of the first Booke*

which might haue giuen an end to her feare; when the counterfeit cruell one, throwing open his armes, as if with greedinesse he would swallow the death she threatened, and there-with-all vsing those actions which any way could stirre commiseration, he not onely made her desist from her threatening; but also moued such arguments to arise in her perplexed brest, that her eie, hauing made her will her slauie, she beginnes to hold strong disputation against all her instructions.

Can it be possible (said she) that this is not *Thirsis*, whom I see with so much humility stand before me? Can Nature, which hath made all the world so different one from an other, bee growne now so cunning, that he and this should haue but one *Idea*? O it cannot be, neither is it reason that mine eies, which haue euer bene faithfull vnto mee, should, in so vndoubtfull an obiect, receiue the imputation of distrust: Is there a ligne, a feature, or the smalleſt crest in all the volume of his countenance which I haue formerly beheld, and cannot now demonstrate? Alas, there is not one, neither is deceit ſo curious to be ſo carefull in her counterfeits: The ſtales we make to entice, reſemble much, but are alike little; for Art hath euer had a groſſer hand then Nature; and ſo in this worke, if it were Sophiſticate, there is no queſtion, but the reſt of a pure iudgement would both decide & diſcouer it. Foole that I am, whether am I carried? Is this the strength of my reſolution, or the faith of my promiſe? haue I for this encampt my ſelfe amongst an army of perils, and left all mine honour to groſſe *Plebeian* conſtruction? and ſhall I

now

now stand to dispute, and make Destiny doubtfull: who knowes not, that the eie of all sences, is most deceiuable? witnessse *Ixion*, that in steed of *Juno* imbrast a Cloud; *Alcmena* for *Amphitrian* foulded *Inpister Hammon*; and *Dido* in steed of *Ascanius*, plaid with *Cupyd* her destroyer, Shall I then make doubt what this Monster is? I will not, I will not, and heere charging her Speare againe, with a better resolution then before, and being euен ready to deliuer it into his bosome; he with the wofulnesse of his countenance, and the sad actions, where-with in his song he vttered these Stanzaes following, made her againe refraine from the violence of her anger.

Deere, your unkindnesse kills my my heart,  
Yet doth my death not grieue my thought,  
But being anhour of my smart  
By you my murder shall be wrought:  
Nor doth my paine so discontent me,  
As your owne errour doth torment me.

O may thy choice most prosperous bee,  
When thou shalt yeeld thy power to loue,  
And may no chang'd-faith let thee see,  
Th' eternall torments which I prove:  
Live happy euer, nonemore blest,  
Though I forlorne, die with unrest.

These Stanzaes he deliuered with such an excellent voyce, and so rauishing a gesture of all despairefull actions, that not cruelty it selfe could haue had the power to haue wounded a soule so suppliant to any torment

## The second Part of the first Booke

torment it would please beauty to inflict vpon him; and now the weakenesse of her imagination did so wonderfully transport her beyond all the rules of wholesome counsell, that not content to beleue the falsehoods of her eies, shee begets in her selfe diuers reasons and testimonies to approue what soever she suggest, saying; that al-be her sight might deceiue her, yet her eares could not, for she was assured that both the voyce and song could proceed from none but onely *Thiris*, her knowledge being no such stranger, to his words, but that she could easily distinguish his aires from any counterfeite Musick; and from hence, the strength of her opinion got so large an empire to gouerne ouer, that now she imagines the vertuous *Nerina* (subbornd by *Diatassan*) had onely drawne her into this labyrinth, that murthering the most faithfull man of the world, there might no more doubts runne betweene him and his wishes; 'Tis so, (said she) alas, 'tis so, vertuch hath euer bene hated, and malice cares not in how great an ocean of bloud it sailes to the designe it desireth, but mine innocent hands shall be free from such massacre, nor shall mine Epytaph be poluted with bloody charracters; and as she was thus speaking, the Furies beganne rigorously to hale him from her presence; so that now her minde, being all replete with loue and pitty, shee humbly besought them not to retire and carry goodnessse to misery; but euen for pitty sake, which forc't *Plato* to lament with *Orpheus*, to giue to his last howers some tast of contentement, the progresse of whose life had trauelled through nothing but sorrow and vnsatisfied calamity, But the  
more

more she entreated, with the more violence they seemed to dragge him away; the image of *Thirsis* turning his head backe ouer his shoulder vpon her, and lifting vp his hands, in his woes seeming still to respect no affliction but the torment of her disdaine; which the more she beheld, the more her pity encreased, and that pity brought forth a desire, whose passion was so immoderate, that it was no errour to say it was plaine madnesse; and now casting the Speare out of her hand, she runnes after the Furies, and entreates them that she might speake with *Thirsis*, but one word, on little little word, when immediately, the Inchanter, transform'd to the oughiness of his owne shape, like a deuoring Wolfe o're an innocent Lambe, ceaz'd the distressed Lady, within his vnmercifull embracement, and turning ouer her like an euer-vnsatisfied vulture(for the losse of her Speare, had lost her all safety and comfort) hee said:

Neuer till now, was I rich in my mischieves, nor hath the tyde of mine euils before risen to a height equall with my wishes; but being now possesse of *Thirsis*, the wonder of men, and *Melidora*, the admiration of woemen, what mischiefe can say it hath dominion ouer more singular people? O I shall grow fat with contentment, to heare their shrikes and lamentations, for their can be no Musicke so pleasing as the moanes of mortall creatures: And as he was thus speaking, with the distressed Lady in his armes, whose fearefull amazement had euен brought her to a sencelesse dumbnesse, hee might behold, appearing out of the Wood, *Diasaffan*, and the Sheep-

H heard.

## The second part of the first Booke

heard *Elpyno*; at which prospēt hee, immediately, hurried the Princesse into his enchanted house, and vowed he would make such prouision, that the rest should not be long ere they bore her company; but scarcely had he, with his spels, clos'd vp his Nygromanticke gates, when the two Sheepheards *Diasaffan* and *Elpyno* arrived before the same; on which, when they had, with wondring eies, gaz'd a pretty space, and inrewailed that so much euill should bring forth so much excellency, *Diasaffan*, in the end, telling *Elpyno*, that within the bowels of that gawdy Monument were entombed all the miseries which euer were created, the burthen whereof lay so intollerably heavy vpon the soule of distressed *Thirsis*, as without some speedy ransome, it was impossible hee could continue vnconfounded, and therefore with all earenestnesse besought him to assay the vertue of his Pipe; to which *Elpyno*, more for the loue he bare to *Thirsis*, then for any other obligation whatsoeuer, most willingly consented; and so ordering his Reeds with the touch of a most delicate hand, hee there sounded forth such Musick, that theincharted house did seeme to dance & caper in the aire, the trembling Pinacles, so fearefully shaking their lofty heads, that they threatned a present ruine to the whole building; and now the enchanted gates flew open of their owne accord; whilst, as being borne away by some whirle-wind, issued forth the Princesse *Melidora*, and passed out of their sights with such a deliuier swiftnesse, that their eies could not give their hearts certaine intelligence whether it was she or no; yet *Diasaffan*, vpon her first appearance, intreated *Elpyno* a little

little to cease his Musickē, for if his eies were not too vnijust Herralds, he saw the Princesse *Melidore*, but so soone was she vanish't from the leuell of their iudgements, that they stood in an amazed argument, whether it shold be shee, or some illusion in her figure, to entice them from the designe they had vowed to prosecute; But when the doubt of their immagination was ended (for it was but a shadowy passion of short continuance) *Diasaffan* againe entreated *Epyno* to try his cunning, which he did with such curious painefulnesse that had hell it selfe bene in that place, the gates thereof must perforce haue flowne open; and now the Towers, which before did but tremble, began to fall from their foundations, yet before they were seene to touch the ground they vanish't like smoake, and resolued to nothing: During which disorderly ruine, *Thiris*, like a man carried contrary to his owne powers, came winding and rouling out of the enchanted house, with such an amazed gesture, that *Diasaffan* ceaz'd him in his armes before he could imagine he was vnceaz'd of his torment; and after him issued forth diuers others, some flying one way, some another, in such a confused manner of distraction that no eie could sencibly discerne, either what were their persons, ranke or conditions.

The daimed *Misanthropos*, seeing this desolation hurl'd vpon his wickednesse, came forth, and with all the coniurations, spels, and charraeters, which formerly had bound the greatest Kings of deuils to his obedience, he againe assayes if he can either hold from further perishing, or else, at least, repaire the

## The second Part of the first Booke

miserie of his mis-fortunes , but when he saw the more he laboured , that still to worse end the toile of his labours conuerted , a damnable desperation tooke hold vpon him , and according to the true nature of premeditate and resolued wickednesse , hee entombes himselfe within the ruines of that decayed house , and setting all things which were about him on fire , he there , with many most grievous exclamations and cursings expired his life into cinders . All this while , *Diasaffan* held *Thiris* in his armes , without respect , or knowledge of what fortune betell the Inchanter , and *Thiris* on the other side , stood staring in the eies of *Diasaffan* , whom he supposed to be some new tormentor , and besought him , in as much as his features and comlinesse of person did exceed all his former persecutors , not to couet to enlarge the ocean , or seeke to make his afflictions greater , which were so vnbounded , as no imagination , strength , or patience , was able to containe them .

But *Diasaffan* , freeing him from his embracement , said ; Behold my *Thiris* , thou art no more a slau to hellish cruelty , but art freed from thy bonds , and made once more Maister of thine owne person .

At liberty (said *Thiris* ?) o do not delude me with false hope , making the consumption of my ioyes , the infinite redoublers of my most vnspeakable torments .

Believe it (said *Diasaffan*) thou art at perfet and secure liberty , I pray thee open thine enchanted eies , and looke vpon mee , I am thy friend , and fellow Sheepheard , indeed I am *Diasaffan* , and dare boldly assure

assure thee, that all illusions and enchantments are vtterly banished, and there is not any opposition betwixt thee and thy freedome; Alas, it was to me, and to euery gentle soule, a sorrow insufferable, to heare of the manner of thyne afflictions, and to behold the, not to be exceeded, sorrow which all the Sheep-heards in *Tempe* made for thy absence, some breaking their Pipes, and for-swearung all Country Musick; some tearing their Sonnets, and abiuring all Poely; one vowed he will never more throw either Dart, or Axe-tree; and another protests, he will never more runne, either at Basse, or Barly-breake; *Echo* shall hence-forth repeate no Carrols but Ellengies, the Water-nymphes shall loose their fountains and their shadowes; the *Fawnes* shall forgoe the seruice of *Bacchus*, and the *Satyrs* shall never more attend vpon drunken *Silenus*: Hence I began to study by what Art or Industry I might procure thine infranchisement, and in the end, by the help of this my fellow Swaine (vnto whose skill the Gods themselues are propitious) I found a meanes to shake of thy fetters, and to make thy foule pryson, like a surfeited stomacke, to cast thee forth into the world, that thy friends might take comfort in thy society.

When *Thiris*, whose eies, by this time, were cleerely opened, and into whose little Kingdomes were againe restored memory, knowledge, and iudgement, with their three faithfull companions, Retention, Truth, and Discretion, saw himselfe deliuered thus minutely, against all expectation, euen by him, whom of all men he supposed to be the greatest

## *The second part of the first Booke*

enemy to his happiness; whose loues being fixed vpon one obie&t, like two Emperours riuals war'd and contended, to bring disgrace to each others actions; when hee saw this generous designe thus nobly performed (Time, hauing not in former times, preserued a president of so great worthinesse) with a soule ten thousand times more thankefull then his deliueraunce was carefull; hee embrac't *Diataffan* in his armes, and said.

Thou Mirrour of all noble curtesie, whose excellent charity hath preserued a life, not worthy thy painfulnesse; let mee assure thee, that whatsoeuer thou hast giuen mee is nothing but thine owne riches, neither will I keepe it, or esteeme it for any thing but thine employment; my life, assure thee, shall bee a tribute euer payable, when thou wilt command it; and al-be hitherto it hath beene infinitely negle&tēd by me, henceforth I will prize it at better rate, till it haue done some acceptable seruice for thee.

*Diataffan* gaue him infinite thankes for the tender of so much affection, but there-with-all acknowledgēd that no worth or work in him was worthy of such merite; and thus, after diuers and sundry ceremonious embracements on euery side, with a world of thankfulness to the most famous *Elpyno*, *Diataffan* perswaded *Thiris* that he would be pleased to goe home with him to his Cabinet, and there a while refresh himselfe, till he had smoothed those wrinkles which sorrowfull afflictions had ingrauen vpon him. *Thiris*, whose very soule was now engaged to the loue of *Diataffan*, holding it a sinne vntremitable to deny

deny whatsoeuer he demanded, consented to his request; and so *Elyno* sounding his shrill pipe, they began to depart from that vnhallo wed valley: but hardly were they moued so farre that their motion might be discerned, when *Elyno* espyed on the ground the speare belonging to the great Goddess *Minerva*, which he perfectly knew, and the Nymph to whose charge it was alotted, and so taking it vp, he concluded, that the Nymph whom *Diasassan* supposed to be the Princesse, was onely *Nerina*, by the hand of some euill fate imbarked in that danger; to whom he said he would re-deliuier her charge, lest the losse thereof might loose her the fauour of the Goddess: and then setting his pipe againe to his lip, they departed from that vnhallo wed ground, and came into their owne walkes; where, because the euening began to put on her worst countenance of darknesse, the two yong sheepheards tooke their soleimne leaues of the graue *Elyno*, promising to be euer at his commandement when any occasion should craue their imployment; and so they departed to their feuerall homes.

When the silence of the darke night, and the politicke *Diasassans* most cunning knowledge in paths remote, and vnfrequented, had brought sad *Thirsis* vnseene, vn suspected, and vnthought of vnto his Cabinet, after they had a while repos'd themselues by a cleere fire, and tasted the countrey fruits of that seasons ripenesse, and made *Leus* swim in their well-spiced Mazers, being now not any but themselues in that little cottage, and the still night lending a gentle eare to their discourse, *Diasassan* in the end, brake forth

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

forth into these speeches.

Man (my *Thirsis*) in his first creation, was not made for the tillage of the earth, for the inuention of fundamentall lawes, for the ordering of Common-wealthes, nor for the obeying, or being obeyed in the seuerall chaires of much different or distinguisht greatnessse; but he was made onely, with a thannfulness equall to the blessings hee had received, in all his actions and meditations to sound forth the most glorious praise of the most Diuine and onely omnipotent *Alpha*; nothing being so high-prized in his sacred nature, as thankfulnes & obediēce. Hence, from this great statute (whose forfeiture is no lesse then eternall destruction) is deriuued a little bond, or obligation betweene man and man, teaching vs that the duty of thankfulness excelleth all the offices belonging to mans life; the breach whereof is no lesse then damnation to our good names, and a perpetual obloquy left to liue with our memories.

I speake not this (deere *Thirsis*) either to intimate any doubtfulnesse in the excellency of thy nature, or to stirre thee to any better consideration of thine owne goodnessse then the bent of thine owne will, (euer aimed at the noblest part of perfection) shall by thy reason euer present before thee; but I do it in respect of mine own mis-fortunes, which hath drawn my life so neare to the worst of deathes cruelty, that onely alone, without thine aid and assistance, I am nothing but the most miserablest caitife breathing: Therefore if either my loue or deserts, or any other merit in the painefulnesse of my seruice, haue had  
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the power to gaine the heauenly Iewel of thy dearest esteemed friendship: then by them all I beseech thee, giue me leauue to coniure thy loue, and by thine own remembrance, which is the best register of things most acceptable to thine eye, vouchsafe to grant me one suite, in which thy consent giueth me a happy life; but thy denyall a death sudden,bitter, and most disgracefull.

*Thirsis* vnable to wade in the still-deepe-streame of the cunning Sheepheards cogitations; and whose innocent minde,framing her thoughts to her owne likenesse, was free from deceit or circumuention, told *Diasaffan*, that to him, who had no part left in himselfe which he accounted his owne, but was all vniversally giuen ouer to be imployed in any aduenture, how dangerous soever (so it pleased his will to guide him thereunto) which might bring him the least contentment; there was no need of this coniueration; and therefore humbly besought him, from an open and direct breast, to discharge his desires, assuring him, by all the protestations of a constant faith; nay, that he might annex better belief to his vnreuuocable vowes, hee sware by *Melidora*'s white hand, by her hopes of honour, and by the holy festiuall of her most happy marriage, that no action should be so strange, no stratagem so secure, nor no danger so ineuitable and certaine to breed destruction, which he would not, with all willingnesse, enter into, so it might redound due to the least figure of his satisfaction.

I but (said *Diasaffan*) the strangeness of the danger is able to diuert strangely your resolution. Not so

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(said

## The second part of the first Booke

(said *Thirsis*) all-be it can put on vizards more vgly  
then euer perill was disguised in : for beleue it, who-  
socuer feareth danger, must necessarily feare friend-  
ship. But (replyed *Diasassan*) what if the action bee  
insupportable ? Then (quoth *Thirsis*) the greater  
honour attends the conquest, and vertue never lo-  
ueth to wade in a shallow stremme.

What (said *Diasassan*) if the mischiefe concerne  
your selfe more then any other?

Then (said *Thirsis*) shall I haue fewer riuals in mine  
honour then any other. I beseech thee do not seeke  
to coward me with these suppositiones, or thinke thou  
canst threaten away from me, any part of my resolu-  
tion : for I haue vowed, and will never repent any  
part of such vowes, that whatsoever I can do to doe  
thee seruice, I will do with that cheareful willingnes,  
that euen in the greatest extremity of my danger,  
nothing shall appeare which shall daunt my cou-  
rage.

*Diasassan* beholding him thus constant, and know-  
ing by ancient experiance, how vertuously he was e-  
uer addicted; banishing all feare, doubt, or distrust of  
Apostacy, boldly, and in plaine phrase deliuered vnto  
him the tenor of the proclamation, which by the  
voluntary consent of the Princesse, was not onely  
sent through all *Tempe*, but euen through all the  
coastes of *Arcadia* also; assuring vnto any man that  
could exceed her, either in swiftnes, or in shooting,  
an eternall possession both of her, and her fauours.  
Now my *Thirsis* (said *Diasassan*) it is knowne vnto vs  
all within these launds, especially vnto my selfe, whose  
neerer intimacy hath made me more familiar with  
your

your contentions, that not any Sheepheard, Woodman, Satyre, nor Fairy, is able to match her in the excellency of either of those skils (your selfe onely excepted,) whom I haue oft beheld so farre to exceed her, that many times a passion of discontentment, like vnto anger, hath made her say, shee would no more take pleasure in such controuersies. Therefore the fauour which I begge at thy hands (whose true performance may make me the happiest sheepheard living) is, that you will be pleased in my garments, disguise, and priuate abilliments (all which are well knowne to the eye of euery Sheepheard) to try the force & vertue of your best art; and vnder my name, as well as my figure, to win the Princesse for me: an act, which if you be pleased to performe, you shall not onely giue me an ample satisfacion for all my seruices imploied in your deliueraunce, but for euer hereafter containe me as your vowed seruant, and most surest obliged creature: If contrariwise you be pleased to grant repulse to my hard, and most painefull demand, doe but giue the least signe of such distaste, and you shall instantly behold his death, whose miserable life was neuer made worthy, but when it was employed in the worke of your deliueraunce.

As soone as *Thirsis* had heard the Sheepheards whole relation, and perceiued that his life was preserued but to confound his life, being compelled by his vowes, to giue away that litle hope which hitherto maintained a weake life, full of all agony, and all the distempers, passions, frenzies, and grieved tormentes which either misery or dispaire could lay

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

vpon him, turning himself from *Diasassan*, as if on-  
ly he meant to talke with his consideration in a mat-  
ter so strange, and neerely concerning the life-long-  
bitternesse of his euer-lothed life, he lift vp his hands  
to heauen, and wringing them one within another,  
he said; *Fortune, ô Fortune!* thou euer-displeased e-  
nemy to my rest, when wilt thou glut thy selfe with  
the huge masse of mine vnspeakable lamentations,  
and beholding my miseries, on the highest scale of  
despaire, vouchsafe by my death, an end to mine o-  
uer-wrackt calamities? When wilt thou be weary of  
creating me new disasters? and finde out for thy fu-  
ry some other subiect, whose greater worthiness  
may bring greater renowne to thy cruelty? Me? a-  
lass! why me hast thou chosen on whom to dis-  
charge all the Arrowes of thy vnsatisfied wrath, my  
life hauing no respect in the world, and so thy re-  
uenge depriued all memory and reputation? Tell  
mee (thou that art neuer greatest in goodness) wherein haue I offendeth thy Deity? Which of thy Temples haue I euer prophane? What Altars of thine haue I razed? How many Statues haue I defaced? When did I extinguish any of thy liuing Fires, or in contempt of thy power, said; There was disproportion in a circular motion? Haue I (at any tyme) made thy God-head disputable? or raised (by mine heresies) doubtfulness amongst thy best followers? Haue my constant torments made mee blasphemeth thy name? or say (for all my firme-setled sorrowes, that thou hadst no might in inconstancy? Haue I not (with my best wits) defended thy mutability? and compared it to

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the seasons of the yeere, to the course of mans life, and to the delight of his sences; the first confounded, if any bee wanting; the next imperfite, if by alteration not increased; and the last dull and vselesse, if not for the distinguishing of sundry obiects: O thou that art most mighty by mens ruines, and the foundation of whose throne standeth on the subuertion of Empires; I beseech thee to bee pleased, that in this last act of my long labour'd Tragedy, I may haue leau'e to die, peaceably, and obscurely! Alas! my loue, which was euer accompanied with a seuere disdaine, brought (in comparison of this) to my heart but an vnfelt distemperature; my thraldome with *Mysantropos*, where the torments of hell are presented in their most feeling hidiousnesse, was (being compared with this) but a golden chaine of desired seruitude. Nay, what imagination hath a circumference so large, as to bound within it a misfortune so fatall, and incomprehensibly tyranous: but indiscreete that I am, whether doth my mad agony transport mee? Haue I not premeditately sworne, with aduised thoughts, and deliberate considerations, that my life shall not be valedewed with the true worth of his deserts, who brought me from an intollerable bondage, and doe I now stammer in my resolution? No, I am confident, and the worst and best, which can way befall mee, is but a death long expected, and now come a little howre before my preparation; my faithfull promise is my vertue, and before that shall suffer my life shall ten thousand times ruine; for I had rather this memory should liue on my graue-stone, than my faith gaue away my life,

## *The second part of the first Booke*

then that my periury had ingratefully gotten mee a goodnesse, which would onely hate me for the vilenesse of my purchase. And, heere, turning himselfe about to *Diataffan*, who all this while stood in a great amazement, troubled with doubtfull thoughts what resolution hee should receiue from his sorrowfull Sheepheard, hee deliuered him this answere.

Thou hast (*Diataffan*) by a double bond tyed mee euer vnto thy seruice; first, by releasing mee from the torments of *Mysantropos*; and now, by deliuering mee from the worlds worst iniurieS : for thou hast now brought mee a death so certaine and easie, that in one moment all my malignities shall expire, and I shall then sleepe calmly in my graue, that with tempestious blasts and stormes fearefully raging haue had my life euer enuironed; onely bee thou cheerefull and merry, who art the onely delightfull *Nightingall* of the warmest season, and one, whom the onely Goddessesse of the world will make the choisest darling of her most dearest delight. For this beleeue, (Sheepheard) as firmlye as thou beleeuest any worke of Destiny, that the life I vowed to giue thee for my life, I will pay thee in this worke faithfully and truely, two-fold; First, in my conquest, of which, except both Gods and Nature infinitely conspire to crosse mee, I neither despaire nor doubt of; and next, in her, who hauing euer borne my life in her bosome, by giving her, I shall give thee not onely my life, but whatsoeuer else in my life was esteemed pretios: And this I will do, as willingly and faithfully, as thou desirest it seriously and carefullly: and therefore argue no more the alteration of

say

my resolution, neither call to minde mine infortunate loue, but building vpon that integrity, which I haue hitherto preserued spotlesse, with my reputatiōn, rest assured, that I will either purchase thy wish, or else my selfe, for euer, loose the vse of wishing.

At these wordes, *Diasaffan* tooke the sad Sheepheard in his armes, and kissing his checke, told him; His noble curtesy shoulde never die, but, whilſt either time, or memory shoulde liue vpon the earth, so long there shoulde dwell a register of his excellent faith and constancy. And there-with-all he entreated him to cast away all care and griefe, and no more to make sorrow his onely familiar, assuring him that Fortune had many treasures, yet, lockt vp for him; which, doubleſſe, would in the end bring all his desires to that port, at which hee, onely, coueted to cast Anchor.

But *Thirſis* replyed, My grieſes and I, am of ſo long, and ſo inseparablie familiarity, that it is as eaſie to take from any Element his predominant quality, as to diſ-vnite the league which is combined betwixt vs: and for the enioyment of my deſires, they are, alas, ſo farre remoued from hearing my complaints, that ſooner shall wee, and our *Antipodes*, warme vs at one instant with one Sunne-shine, then they euer meete to do me eaſe in my trouble. But letting my miseries ſleepe in my owne bref, I pray thee tell mee, Sheepheard, when is the triumphant day which muſt decide this controverſy?

And *Diasaffan* told him, the very next morrow inſuing; which in as much as it came ſtealing, fast vp-on them, with ſwift vndiſcerned paces, and now the night

## The second Part of the first Booke

night was almost growne to the midde point of her  
gouernement, faire Cassiopeia twinkling her little  
sparkes in at every small cranny, hee perswaded the  
melancholy Sheepheard to betake himselfe to his re-  
pose, assuring him that the next morning all things  
should bee prepared in readinesse, both for his dis-  
guise and all other accomplishments needfull in  
that curious busynesse.

Thirsis, gaue him many thankes, and so, for that  
night, went to his rest; where he rested with so much  
vnrest, that as if his bed had bene made of thorne,  
or imbost with needles, hee could find in no part of  
it either ease, or enticement to slumber, but tossing  
and rouling to and fro, cursing his fortune which  
had made him his owne executioner, and accusing  
Nature that had giuen him perfe~~ction~~, to make all  
his happiness most imperfect, hee consumed the  
weary time with such pittious moanes, and bitter-  
nesse of anguish, that Barbarisme, it selfe, would haue  
bene grieued with his lamentations.

But leauing him, in the trouble of his owne passi-  
onate thoughtfulness, let mee returne to the vertuous  
Princess; who, with a griefe nothing inferiour  
to the distressed Sheepheard; and with a shame, in-  
finitely superior to all others bashfulness, so spent  
the calme season of the quiet night, that the faire  
spangled sky, in lamentable coniiseration of her  
teares and sighings, let fall to the earth many of her  
cleere lights, to shew that her moanes, onely, depri-  
ued her of glory: O, it is vnsearchable, and past re-  
uelation for the tongue of man to tell the depth  
of her diuersly bewailings; for one while, the vnkind-  
nessse

nesse of *Diatassan*, his apostacy, periury, and inhumanity, ceaz'd to their vse, the whole substance of her thought; then *Thirsis* thraldome, his vertue, constancy, and patient misery, tooke vp the whole compasse of her minde; and lasty, her owne shame, who hauing giuen into her power a full power to worke, both hers, and his happinesse with all powerfullnesse, through a weake womanish distrust, and a iealousy, full of absurde impossibility, not onely to loose the blisse of that occasion, but with her irresolution to leaue her-selfe in the danger of destruction; these heauy weights of anguish fell so grievously on her troubled soule, that they banisht, not onely sleepe from her wet eies, but all things else, which, in any measure, carried the similitude of his charracter; now shee repents the freedome of her proclamation, and wishes, she could vnwisch what her wishes had created.

The Nymph *Ethera* she is ashamed to see, because her very looks will discouer her pusillanimity.

The Nymph *Xerina* she is afraid to see, because she had not onely, neglected her counsell, but deprived her of that Iewell, belonging to the Goddesse, whose losse not any account could satisfie: Thus tormented in her mind with these thoughts, which like so many mercilesse executioners toare and diuided her soule into many painful parts, she woare out the length of that ill-boding night, whose dew-wet dank wings, flag'd and flew so slowly that the day was forst to chide her from the earth, and with her bright siluer Mace to ding her head-long downe into the bottome of the Ocean; and now the Sunne, armed

## *The second part of the first Booke*

with his Bow, and his best Darts , as if hee ment to haue become a Champion in those sports , entred his Chariot (which was trimmed with *Hellitropceans*, and with Roses) so gloriously , that the brightnesse of his first countenance tooke all drowsinesse from mens sences, and made euery Nymph, Sheepheard, and Forrester bestirre themselues about that daies triumph.

The Princesse seeing now, that time , and her owne pleasure, had brought her iniuries vpon her, and thrust her head-long into that maze , out of which she had no way to passe, but by the direct line of iustice, willing to bee content , where no vnwillingnesse could breed her satisfaction , and trusting in the vertue of her owne excellency , which shee doubted not , but would defend her from all vndesired claynes; With a heart full of forc'd, and most vnpleasant contentment, shée arose from her dumbe counsele-keeper, the pillow ; and, with the helpe of her Hand-maids, adorned her selfe so curiously in Loose-silks, Cipresse, Thinne-lawnes, and Tiffanies, each being pufte, and inter-changeably knotted one with another, that *Zephirus* himselfe, would haue giuen halfe his Deity for so curious and light a garment: Her Buskins were suitable, and couered onely the small of her legge; vpon her head shē woare nothing but a light Coronet of small (yet rich) Iewels ; and about her necke shē woare a Carkanet of seeming flowers , but, indeed, they were cut out of pretious stones of their naturall colours : When shē was fully imbellished, according to her desire, knitting her quiuer to her side, and taking her Bow into

into her hand, shee descended downe into her great Chamber, where shee found all the choisest Nymphes of *Tempe*, in their checkred, and youthfull brauery, adorned so richly, that like so many Starres, they were ready to waite on her, their onely best adored *Cinthis*.

The formost, and best preferred, being the Nymph *Aphelcia*, on whom the Princesse could by no meanes looke without blushing.

Next her, stood *Ethera*, whose heart was big, because her tongue, in that place, could not haue leaue to expostulate with the Princesse.

Next her, was nimble-tongued *Egeria*, a Nymph famous for Rydles, Rymes, and her affection to Poets.

Then there was witty *Paulina*, a Wench, that naturally spake Epygrams, for few words past from her without a double signification, giuing wits leaue to conster after their owne dispositions, or wantonly, or chasly.

By her stood demure *Driope*, a Nymph that in publicke kept a paire of ballance betweene her lips, wayng all things which proceeded from them, but priuately would take liberty to proue, shee was as imperfect as a woman.

Not farre from her was modest *Celsa*, a Nymph whose discretion guarded her from mens mis-constructions, and whose vertue tempred her actions with such an indifferent hand, both in disdaine and his contrary, that noe any man had cause either to boast of her fauours, or yet to repine at the cruelty of her worst countenance.

## The Second Part of the first Booke

*Silvia* stood by her side, a Nymph that maintained many heresies in loue, saying: woemen ought to chuse husbands, as wise-men chuse Balieffes, men too simple to deceiue, yet euer so prouident, thaē they will let no wealth escape them. As for the four Cardinall vertues, or any other singularity either of minde or body, she held them fit ornaments for seruants whom the plaid with, not for husbands whom they liued with.

Next her, was wanton *Petula*; a Nyinph that held strongly the opinion of *Corisca*, which was, that women should vse their louers like their smockes, haue many, change oft, and never vse but one at once.

Besides these, there was a world of others, as *Amarillis*, *Gallates*, & *Glanca*, *Thestilis*, *Amarantha*, and *Belisa*, and a whole beauy, whose names to record, were a labour troublesome and needlessse.

Not farre from the Lodge of the Princesse, within a Laund which was richly checkered, and intrayled, with many sorts of most delicate flowers, planted onely by the hand of Nature, with any assistance of Art: there was seated, a most faire and goodly *Amphi-theater*, the out-side whereof was onely buile of a smooth and exceeding rich stone, and the ioints did so artificially close and meete together, without discouering the ciment, or shewing to the eie the mixture of their seuerall crests, that a very good iudgement might haue bene borne with, if it had maintained, that it had bene compaeted of one stone onely, but the in-side which was diuided into many large Galleries, & seates of great state was erected of goodly

goodly pillars of diuers coloured Marbles, whose differences were so diuided, and artificially mixed one with another, that they gaue to the eye of the stranger an amazed delight, full of admiration. All the other parts were richly gilt, and imbossed with most curious Bottage, and adorned with many rare Antickes; in whose lively figures the work-men had shewed such curiosnesse of skill, that Nature was many times deceiued, supposing them to be her liuing Images.

This Theater was built for many purposes, as first for the hearing & determining of all causes corrigible: Next, for the entertainmet of all Pastoral sports, and Eglogs: Then for the tryals of Sheepheards maisteries, either in wrastling, leaping, dauncing, throwing the bare, or fledge; and generally for any publique vse or assembly, where the worthinesse of the action did admit any respective regard to the eyes of the beholders.

To this Theater the Nympes attended the Princesse, where she was to repose her selfe till the Forresters should giue notice of the preparation of the sports: and because of the greatnessse of the occasion which brought forth this day of admirable triumph, the roomes were more richly adorned & beautified with hangings of costly arras, then at any time formerly it had been; the floore of the stage was all couered ouer with most rich carpets of needle-worke, & the rest hung about with cloth of gold, and tyssue: vpon whose frontispice was placed the three prizes, for those three, whose fortunes should that day aduance them by their excellencye to the merit of such

## The second part of the first Booke

goodnesse, beyond their fellowes. The first of which was the picture of the Princesse, exceeding rarely drawne, and adorned with many pretty Iewels: and although no art was able to come neere the exquisitenesse of her naturall perfe<sup>n</sup>ction; yet this was so neere in many most especiall features, that euery eye was able to iudge whose proportion it presented. The second was *Thamicledias* harpe, which *Paris*, when he liued on the mount *Ida*, in his Sheephardish obscurity (knowing no greatnessse, but the gouernement of his flockes; nor goodnesse, but the Nyinph *Oenon*) played on, with that happinesse of skill, that hee stirred wonder and emulation in all his fellow-sheepheards which heard him; it was richly bound together in euery ioynt with seames of pure gold; and the same inchased with many pretious stones of great estimation. The last was a garland made in the manner of a *Morisco Coronet*, and crosse twound and inueloped with many curious and intricate knots, which onely were distinguished by the colours & artificiall placing of the flowers, euery ioynt and border being bound together with fine knotted rapes of small pearle. This was the hand-worke of the Nyinph *Aphelcia*, who in the same had portrayed forth so much rarity of skill, that had *Arachne* beheld it, she would haue ben so much ashamed of her profession, that she would never haue dared to chalenge *Diana*.

After the Princesse had repos'd herselfe here a pretty space, oft striuynge to draw her thoughts to an vniety, whose continuall warre increased both her trouble and torment: In the end the braue Forrester *Silusgio*,

*Silvagio*, attended with many other yong Fosters, all in their woodmens liueries of greene, strip'd with siluer-lace, with their Bugles hung in rich baudricks about their neckes, entred the Theater, and declared vnto the Princesse that the Tyger was lodged, the toyles pitched, the hewee set, and every other needfull preparation so ordered and placed in their best conuenience, that nothing was wanting which could any way bring perfection to that dayes noble triumphe.

Besides, he aduertised her, that the Sheepheards, which that day meant to engage themselues within the honorable lists of that noble contention, were all in a readinesse; every man being suited in seueral colours, according to the councell of their imaginacions; and wearing on their armes, or breasts, deepe, mysticall, and learned Empresaes, discouering the strength of their hopes, & the depth of their wishes: concluding that the Sun was got so high vp into the heauens, that her greatnesse could not with any conuenience loose more time, without much hurt to her hopes, and wonderful great impeachment to the sports, and their labours. The Princesse returned him answere, that she was in a perfēt readinesse, and had long in that place attened his summons; yet before she would issue forth, she intreated him to deliuere vnto her what Sheepheards were in a readinesse, and stood to try maisteries with her that day; and also what deuises, not all, but the most principall bare about the, that by their inuentions she might adiudge the worthinesse of their discretions.

To which *Silvagio* replied, that the army was so great

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

great as to make a particular relation of them all, was to consume the day in no other exercise ; onely for those few which were most note-worthy in his eyes, their characters were these.

The first (he said) was youthfull *Menalchas*, a swaine that was so much behoden to Nature for his features, that he scorned to be indebted to Education for any part of the gouernement of his life : and therefore was like a faire picture, much better to gaze on then to commerce with ; whence it sprang, that being onely contented with himselfe, he made respect of no other society : his garments are all of a russet colour, signifying his hope, and his deuice, which he carries faire depainted vpon his quiuer, is a Dormouse sleeping, the word, *Quiescendo Pingue/co*, alluding that his former quietnes hath fed him with so much pleasure, that nothing but this occasion could awakeu him to these troubles.

Next vnto him is amorous *Amintas*, one whose affection is so actiuie, and laxatiue, that wanting a true subiect whereon to discharge his passions, he will let fall his desires vpon insensible obiects; and yet infinitely defend his owne constancy, in as much as at no tyme he is inamored of two seuerall creatures : his loue, like a hammer, which driues out one nayle with another, expelling the first fury with the second madnes : his garments are all of pure watchet chamblet ; vpon his breast hauing lively embrodered a faire *Heliuropean* flowre, bowing his head according to the course of the Sun, & the word, *Soli Phæbo*; signifying, that howsoeuer he hath formerly been transported with a various humour of many alterations; yet notwithstanding

withstanding the true Sunne, which is absolute beauty, is euer his constant obiect.

Neere him is renowned *Colin*; a Sheepheard, that for all the perfections both of minde and body, is worthy to march in the first ranke of men, esteemed most compleat, being a man whom no greatnessse of Fortune can make to negle & his first beginning, nor no lownesse in mishap make stoope to the least signe of basenesse; no, though it should come clothed in the best glories of vnstain'd-honesty: his garments are all of greene Tammell, and on his arme he beares brauely depainted, a Parret, climbing vp a tree both by head and feet; and the word, *Lentopede*, signifying that goodnesse is not gotten by violence, or rashnesse, but by gentle and easie steps, men fixing their feet constantly and firmly: for scales are neuer leapt vp, but with much difficulty slowly walke vp, euery member being employed for a mans safetie; by which allusion he intimates, that in this controuersie he will discreetly apply all the powers, both of his mind and body, worthily to gaine the fauour of the most worthe creature breathing.

Next him standeth strong-limb'd *Hobynol*, a swaine whom all-be Nature hath not cast in her best mowld for the eyes delight, yet she hath fashioned him best for vse, and the imployment of most respected seruice: his garments are of a sky-coloured serge, spangled in euery seame with little *Oes* of gold; and on his skirts are richly embrodered a golden hoope, sent from the heauens, and possessed by a hand, vnder which is this word; *Nec plus, nec minus*, intimating that if his fortune should make him maister

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## *The second part of the first Booke*

of that rare Iewell which the Gods themselues keepe  
in their best safeguard, that then hee had all the con-  
tentment he would wish, and more or lessche would  
neuer hereafter couet.

Amongst these are rankt the two amorous Sheep-  
heards of *Liconia*, braue *Carino*, and discreet *Credulo*,  
who equally louing the faire Nymp *Cynthia*, haue  
administred to the world great admiration, both in  
the constantnesse of their affection; whose flame,  
though it be violent, yet burnes without distempe-  
rature: in their strange ryuallship, wherein is con-  
tained neither envy, nor ill-wishes; and in their vn-  
spotted friendships, which is a president exceeding  
all the honorable masculine-loues which haue beeene  
recorded since the first ages. These Sheepheards are  
suited both after one fashion, in willow-coloured  
*Taffata*, all knotted ouer with a tawny silke lace, and  
the deuice which they beare, is a Geometricall rule,  
and the word importing, that no affection can bee  
happy or prosperous which is not bounded within  
the limits of wisedome. A world of other Sheep-  
heards there are, whom to decipher, were a worke  
*Herculian* and tedious: onely one, who, like a cleere  
Sunne in a new troubled sky, which makes, with his  
brightnesse, euery thing looke cloudy about him, is  
the noble, and most courtly Sheepheard *Diataffan*;  
who close armed, according to his vsuall custome  
in the like exercises, is mounted vpon his snow-  
white Barbary-horse, whom hee maketh performe  
such strange salts, that fire mounts not from the  
earth more lightly, nor can nimble Cats wind or  
turne in so straight a compasse; Art so farre excel-  
ling

ling Nature, that shee seemes to be the true schoole-mistres to all deliuier action; whilst he, as if incorporated, and made one substance with the beast, sits so vnmoueably-mouing, that not an ouer-curios eye can imagine either disturbance or painfulnesse in any of his motions; he beareth in his right hand a Dart, curiously framed of most pure Iuory, and on his left arme, which beareth his bridle, is a faire shield, cut Scutchion-wise, in which is very liuely portrayed forth *Cupid*, halfe hidden in a faire brooke, and casting a stone into the riuer, whose first touch of the water making a circle no bigger then the stone, from that little circle growes circle vpon circle, till it haue extended to the vttermost verdge of the water: the word importing, that his constant actions in this honourable loue, though at first they appeare no bigger then the small stone, yet shall they so increase in all excellent perfectiōn, that they shall finde no bound to containe them.

The wondring Sheepheards stand gazing vpon him; and are so ouer-delighted with the excellency of his rare shew, that as if they drunke a *Lethe* from his actions, they stand, as it were, lost in their wonder, forgetting all things but what is contained in that pleasing obiect.

Many other things (Madame) there is note-wor-thy in this faire Army of Sheepheards, but none so pretious as these with which I haue acquainted your most excellent attention.

When the Princesse had heard the Forresters Gentlemanlike description of the Sheepheards, and

## The second Part of the first Booke

had noted his ouer-flow of commendations layd vpon the person of *Diataffan*, she turned her head aside, and gaue her thoughts leaue to say to her heart : O that vnworthinesse should ever bee so ready to furnish vp our delights, whilst true worth it selfe lyes hidden where no eye can reueale it ! Alasse ! *Diataffan* is here he that hath nothing but the vizard of vertue, seeming like that, to which of all things hee is most contrary : but *Thirsis* is not here, hee that is not like, but is all vertue himselfe, whose cheeke was neuer painted with any adulterate colour of false goodnesse.

O *Thirsis*, *Thirsis*, hearest thou not that which all *Tempe*, I all *Thessaly*, nay all *Greece* heares ? that whose shrill sound hath awaked *Arcadia*, and made euен the Wood-gods and Satyrs leaue their well-closed thickets to come and be witnesses of our actiōns ? Art thou onely sencelesse of our wishes, or haue mine ancient disdains so deafned and deie&ed thy once-admired spirit, that as a man in a Lethargie thou doest slumber out all those opportunities which should either giue thy selfe or me any contentment ?

Woe is mee alasse ! neither of these doe perplexe thee , a much stronger bond of most vnhallowed enchantment is the restraint of thy presence, making me vnfornatue in thine absence, and giuing audacious boldnes to those weake spirits who with thy veriy sight would haue vanisht, & neither haue attempted any danger or trouble : But since the venome hand of fortune hath mesured my destiny with these crosse-lines, and made me a slauē both to chance and

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## Of the English Arcadia. 39

mens vnsedled opinions, I am resolued, that my resolution, Art, and dexterity (which till this howre hath neuer faild mee) shall once againe make mee free; so that being vntomb'd from these soulds and snares of selfe-wil'd incumbrance, I shall once againe behold those calme daies of safety, which formerly with much delight, I haue euer enjoyed.

The Princesse was not so much perplexed and troubled in her disquieted thoughts; but on the other part, the Nymph *Apheleia* was ten times more vexed with intollerable passions, of anger, feare, and iealousy, when her eares had but drunke in the sound that her Sheepheard *Diasaffan* was prepared to try Masteries that day with the Princesse. Feare perswading her that the true excellencies which were in *Melidora* (super-excelling all the Dames in *Europe*) might very well proue such attractiu motiues to the tenderness of his yong vnsedled judgement, that cloathing his reuolt in Fortunes falsest colours, hee might with an vnblushing cheeke leauie her forsaken and despised: which perswasion, her anger inakes certaine and vndoubted, saying.

That, but hee was infected with the leprosy of lustfull change, it was impossible hee should ingage himselfe thus pomposly into a contention, wherein the maine end was nothing but the enioying of a new Mistresse, leauing her honest faith naked, to the scorne of her emulators, and his owne priuate derision: Which (shee said) hee should no sooner bring to passe, but her iust reuenge, banishing all things but what was absolutely mixt with the most vgliest despaire, should so tyrannize ouer his ill

## *The second part of the first Booke*

fullied body , that sleepe-wanting Nurses should bring their wrangling babes to rest , with the fearefull report of her cruelty .

And this wrathfull resolution was scarce settled in her bosome , when , euer , ill-counselling - Jealousy , not onely applaudes it , but brings also to her remembrance a thousand crosse Chimeras ; and ill countenances of his falsehood ; and now shee calls to mind her last encounter with him , wherein his vnkind flight , & her too kind pursuite , was a volume large enough for her to reade the great story of his mutability , and the vtter banishment of all that noble affection which shew had placed most vnworthily in him .

These three tormentors of the minde , with so many vexations racket and macerated her deadly afflicted soule ; that if honour , and honourable construction , had not suddenly entred , and gotten , in despight of their aduersaries , a quiet place in her thoughts , she had there giuen leauue to impatience to haue publisht her agonies , and with much distractred resolution had giuen disturbance to all their sports .

But honour , which is , euer , the cleerer of imputation , resolues her that his ends are noble and full of vertue , intending but to shew the world his power , not his loue , and that hauing wonne the best Prize , hee will augment the betternesse thereof , by giuing it's lost freedome againe to it's owne disposure : a worke most gratafull to the Princesse , honorable to himselfe , and full of admiration to all his beholders ; and with these cogitations , her heart being a little appeased , fearefull that any worse remembraunce

brances should blot out their goodnesse, she turnes to the Princesse, and puts her in minde of the consumption of the day; the ready preparation of the sports, and the expectation of her seruiceable contenders; vpon which aduertisement, the Princesse returned answere, that shewas ready, and willed them to set forward.

So the Forresters, in their greene Liueries, with their Bugles in rich Baudrickes about their neckes, guilt Iauelings in their hands, and velvet collars gold-studded with silken Lyams at their girdles, marched two and two before the Princesse: The meane and yong Fosters going euer formost, and the grauer and better authorized following after.

Behind the Princesse followed all the Nymphes in equall coopters; the best, and of choicest respect going formost, and the meaner following according to their rankes and places: Being in this comely equipage issued out of the *Amphitheater*, the Sheepheards, vpon the first beholding of the Princesse, gaue a great shout, & the ranking her on either side, like two wings in a well ordered Battell, they marched into the strength, and heart of the Forrest, where the Tyger was lodged, to whose Kennell when they were some-what neerely approached, the Forresters caused them to make a stand, and then placing the Princesse with a little aduantage before, all the Sheepheards, who ingaged themselves in the contention, were in two rankes marshald on either hand of her: only *Thirsis*, who the was supposed to be the youthfull *Diasassan*, presuming vpon the strength of his owne fortune, stood alone by himselfe a pretty distance

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

distance behind them all, and now the Forresters vncoupling their Hounds, and casting them off into the Thicket, euен in a thought of time vnkennelled the Tyger, whose tell-tale feete (being true intelligenchers to his aduersaries noses) made his most secret pathes so publickely knowne, that the chace continued long, swift, hot, and without respite: Now did the Musicke of the well-mouthed Hounds make the Trees shake their leaues for ioy, whose ratling murmur seemed to giue seconds to their clamours; the shoutes, and hallowings of the Sheep-heards beate the hollow vaultes of heauen with such a rebounding noyse, that many Echoes, straining their shrill voyces, doubled and trebled euery single acclamation, and the Forresters winding their loud hornes, sent such a peale through the vast Desarts, that they awaked all the vntamed inhabitants therof, striking such fearefulness into their mindes, that no remembrance was left which could instruct them to any safety; each of these, by themselues, were as a feuerall consort of wel-tuned Musicke, but being mixt together and made one body, of one vniuersall sound, they were so fearefull, and full of distracting admiration, that no stranger-eare but would haue ben deafened euен with the very echo of the same.

In this maine chase, wherein the Tyger, for his safety, made many deceitfull doublings, and interchangeable courses, both backe and forth, measuring the ground with such painefullnesse, that no secret corner was left by him vntrodden; of all the ranks of Nymphes, Sheepheards, or Forresters, whose mornings ostentations would haue made

## *Of the English Arcadia.* 41

one beleue no length of time could tire out their resolutions; not any was able to keepe the veiw of the Hounds but onely the Princesse, and the supposed *Diasaffan*, who running in an euene line, without any coniecture of aduantage, made Art it selfe vn-skilfull which should triumph in the victory; behind them, a little distance, ranne the Nymph *Eshera*, who seeing the equall doubtfulnesse of eithers fortunes, beganne to curse her ill-boading counsell, and wisht shee had lost her memory, before her remembrance gaue life to that vnfourtunate designe: By this time the day was growne to his last age, and *Phæbus* bowing downe his head, that he might, with more familiar neerenesse, behold the differences in these Pastoral contentions, the long-wearied, and ouer-chased beast beganne to slacke his swifter foote-man-ship, and perceiuing that the twigs and brambles of the Thickets (on which his distilling sweate abundantly dropped) were become his notorious betrayers, hee forsakes their false strenghts, and betakes himselfe into the plaine Launds, where hoping to finde some friendly Pond, or Riuier, in which hee might soile and refresh his tormented body, is so much deceiued in his trust, that as if Nature had lockt vp the heads of the Springs, there is no moisture left to coole the least sparke which inflames him: No sooner did the disguised *Thirsis*, behold the fierce beast to forsake the Woods, and with a much imbolded mouth to run madly enraged through the plaine Medowes, knowing that now came the howres of aduantage; with a redoubled speed hee sprang lightly vpon the earth, and out-stript the Princesse a good

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quantity

## *The second part of the first Booke*

quantity of ground; which shee no sooner perceiued, but inflamed with a little displeased passion, she gathered her strength together, and like a gentle gale of Westerne wind, she ouer-tooke him againe & flew before him; so that now their contention grew to the greatest extremity, one not being able to say this hath the aduantage before the other had the better; Fortune playing the wanton betweene them, and taking delight to giue assurance of hope to neither, which vnexpected, doubtfullnesse when the diuine *Nelidora* beheld, she could not chuse but, out of her amazement, thus say within her-selfe.

How oft hath this yong man and I, in our Pastorall sportes, tryed our speeds together, yet neuer was he able (but with difficulty) to keepe the view of my foote-steps? Onely, now he is likely to bee my subduer: O iust heauens, what power haue I offended? or what Deity is it I haue neglected so much, that my vertue is taken from mee and giuen as a prey to him that is my greatest enemy? *Diana, o Diana* thou soueraigne protectresse of all chast thoughts, visite, I beseech thee, my mis-fortunes, and, either make mee free againe for thy seruice, or fixe mee to this earth a metamorphosed Moniuement for all thy handmaids to gaze on; and as her thoughts were thus taliking, she sodainely ranne, not onely, before the suppos'd *Diataffan*, but euen before the formost Hound also, comming so neere to the halfe-tyred beast, that shee discharged one of her Darts at his life, with such wel-leuelled dexterity, that there was not a fingers bredth betwixt the beast and his destruction; when, vnknowne, *Thiris* perceived this, and saw with

with what narrownesse he had escaped much dishonour, he gathered all his best powers together, and running cheeke by ioule with the Princesse, there was Darte throwne for Darte, with such nimblenesse on both sides, that true winning seemed indifferently to be placed betweene them, gouerning their hands and bodies in euery motion, onely it seemed, that to the disguised *Thirsis*, shee lent her better, or right hand, for from him flew a Dart, with such even and true aime, that it passed through the heart of the Tyger, leauing two open issues through, which in stremes of bloud his life fled vpon the ground; but scarcely was the wounded beast falne, before the mistaken Sheepeheard came vnto him, and with a small Semytar which hee woare at his side hee diuided his head from his body, and as a Trophy of his most glorious and victorious conquest hee prickt it vpon the head of one of his Darteres, and so bore it through the fields, in the view of the most of the Sheepheards, which were present at those sportes, many of them crossing the waies to meete him, and to congratulate the blisse of his happy fortune; but, mistaken *Thirsis* knowing the danger of these caressing accomplayments, auoided their pressures, and with a nyimble foote (whose swiftnesse none was able to imitate) hee held his direct way towards the Cabynet of *Driataffan*, loosing the sight, and knowledge of all his pursuers.

When the Princesse beheld her selfe thus vanquisht, and, as it were, lost and diuided from her selfe, amazement, a little while, held passion out of

## The second Part of the first Booke

her bosome, and perswaded her imaginations that it could not bee; which shee thought impossible to bee, but sight, and her remembrance, bearing witness against such insubstantiall coniectures, she gaue discontentment leauē, in his worst and vgliest habylments, to take full possession of her heart, deuising rather how shee might die vertuously, then liue tormented with one (meaning *Diascessus*) so much in-glorious; and as shee was in the midst of these meditations the Nymph *Ethera* came vnto her, and seeing her downe-cast, and dejected sorrowfulnesse shee humbly intreated to know the euent of her fortune, but could receiuē from her no more but these words.

Thou, and my beleefe, haue vndone mee, and I am now a prey to the worst that mis-fortune pleaseseth; Which said, and hauing more griefe in her minde, then could by any Language bee expressed, shee tooke her way towards her owne Lodge, hauing no companion but onely her vnspeaking calamity, the Nymph *Ethera* following her a farre off, her owne shaine, and *Mellidoraes* displeasure making her not dare, either with perswasion, or excuse, to attempt her interruption. And now the euening ending the day with the end of these delights, the Nympes and Sheepheards being gathered together, and the Forresters hauing broken vp the beast, and trust him on a Bore-speare, in a gallant and sollemne manner attended the Princesse to her Lodge, the next day, being the certaine and prefixed time in which the prizes are to be challenged, adjudged, and deliuered.

And

And here the old Prophet and Priest of the great God *Pan* made a pause, and knitting to his story no conclusion; and so giuing to the Prince, little, or no satisfaction, insomuch that *Adunatus* awaking him with his intreaties, said; Nay, good father, leauē not my memory in this imperfect *Dedalian* labyrinth, whence it can neither deliuē it selfe, nor giue account of the passiges it hath troden: I beseech you enrich me with the knowledge of their crosse-fortunes, how vnworthily *Diataffan* could make chalenge to the Princesse, and what end ensued to the faithfull and most miserable *Thirsis*.

To this intreaty *Eugenio* returned this answere; The end of these crosse fortunes, and the winding *Meanders* wherein chance hath run vp and downe with an vnsteady course, I would (my faire sonne) haue thine owne eyes witnesse, whose testimony will bring a better feeling to euery part of thy charitable fense, then any relation of mine: For know, that but this euening is finished all that I haue declared, touching this last daies controuersie, which prophetickly I haue deliuered vnto thee from a diuine relation, being in euery part so true, that *Truth* himselfe will stand Champion to defend the iustnesse of all that I haue reported; and to morrow is the fatall day, wherein (if thou please) thou mayest behold hard-stealed *Audaciousnesse*, with an Adamantine and unblushing front, so confidently chalenge what he never merited, that *Vertue & Wisdome* will stand amazed to see coward *Untruth*, in a moment, growne so admirably valiant; in which intricate worke being contained a world of strange calamities, if thy thrice-royall

## The second part of the first Booke

spirit will vouchsafe to giue a plaine solution, and plucking falsehoods maske from his indire& loo-king-vilage, shew the deceit of an vnsettled affection, thou shalt gaine the loue of the Gods, the praises of Angels, and the prayers of men: Yet thus much I must aduertise thee, that as thy selfe, a Prince of high place and dignity, thou mayest not appeare in that assembly: for the lawes are seuere, and without all fauour executed against any of dignity, or eminent ranke, that dare to enter those forbidden walkes. Besides, when you shall attaint *Diasafan* of his deceit, and vnfold the worthy and laborious conquest of the euer-miserable *Thiris*, it will bee lawfull for *Diasafan* to defend his truth by a pastorall combate, to which he may call you, without further delay, or meditation.

The Prince as much ouer-joyed with the report of this aduenture, as distressed men are with the release of their afflictions, or noble spirits with the possession of new honours: told *Eugenio* that hee bestowed vpon him a double benefit, euerlastingly vnrequistable; first, by enriching his memory with a storiy so full of all the remardeable notes of Fortunes most vnsteady gouernement in the actions of mans life, wherein both delight and pitty were so curiously and cunningly mixt together, that no time could seeme tedious which was spent in the repetition of so memorable accidēts, but especially by opening so faire a path to his honour and reputation, through which they might passe to the hauen of their desires, by giuing comfort to the miserable, and taking from the most vertuous, that most deceitfull abuse of falsehood

hood, which in after time might proue the vtter blemish of all her hopes and happy wishes. And hence he vowed to the holy Prophet, that with all carefulnesse, and the best powers both of his minde and body, he would (according to such directions and instructions as he should receiue from his wisdome) engage himselfe, not onely against *Diasaffan*, but the whole world, which would stand forth and iustifie a falsehood so strong and insufferable; in which (he said) his hopes assured his fortunes such successfull happiness, that he doubted not but with much ease to bring to passe the effects of his desires, goodnessse not being able to endure that wrong should so cruelly tyrannize ouer vertue. Yet (said the Prince) before wee proceed any further into the resolution of this aduenture, I beseech you (if my longings be not troublesome to your memory) declare vnto me the encounter of the two Sheepheards, *Thirsis* and *Diasaffan* after the conquest was obtained, and with what power of patience the victor could giue to another both his faith, his honour, and his life.

Hast thou seene my sonne (quoth the old man) two contrary elements meet together with weake and consumed forces, as sparkes with drops? or the early Sunne with the moist dew? Such was the encounter of these two Swaines: for when *Diasaffan* saw him returne with the trophy of his conquest, his ouerjoyed heart so swelled with astonishment, that robbing him of all other fences, saue only his eye-sight, he became the wondring companion of a compulsatory silence, the whilst *Thirsis*, on the other part, beholding his executioner standing before him, to whom

## The second Part of the first Booke

whom he must not onely deliuere vp all the garments  
of hopes, which had maintained him from the  
frozen bitterness of an vnsatisfied despaire, but euen  
the deere pretiousnes of his life, which nature, by the  
strongest bond of bloud, had tyed him aboue all  
things to cherish and preserue, with a heart torne &  
diuided into many peeces, by the cruell hands of  
loue, gratitude, faith, and his owne free promise, sud-  
denly stood still, as if he had beheld the countenance  
of *Medusa*, or *Curtius* gulfe, into which one steppe  
more had cast him headlong. And thus these two  
happy vnhappy Sheepheards stood with constant  
vnremouing eyes, gazing one vpon the other, whilst  
silence holding their tongues prisoners, stood smil-  
ing to suruey the strength of their contrary passions.  
But griefe, which will not alwayes be bounded with-  
in limits, all-be of all passions it hath the worst vte-  
rance, being euer more familiar with the heart, then  
the lips, checking his astonishment thus, made *Thirsis*  
say vnto *Diatassan*; Behold (deere Sheepheard) here  
in my hand, the image of my loyalty and death, the  
first drawne from thy merit in worthily preseruing  
mee, most vnworthy of all preseruation: the latter  
from my destiny, which the Fates, as a miracle, haue  
throwne into the world for men to gaze and talke  
on, but not to be rankt with any other, how aduerse  
or vnsfortunate soever. O *Diatassan*! constantly be-  
hold me, whilst I possesse this which I haue painfully  
obtained. I am (as thou seest) a man, a man of hope,  
a man of health, and a man of much happiness. I  
haue motions in my bloud, strength in my spirits,  
and a will to aduance the a&ts of an inuiolate friend-  
ship,

ship, but being seuered and diuided, I am nothing more then exanimat earth, vselesse, respectlesse, and but in my sorrowes, eternally forgotten. Since then all the goodnessse which my life could euer covet, the blisse of my wishes, the heauen of my contentment, and the inexpressable consolations which after death should eternally make my walkes in *Elysium*, greene and faire flourishing, are piled vp together in this bleeding monument; and since my voluntary faith, from a well-prized consideration, thought you worthy to bee made the great maister, and true owner of them all: and since it is the will of heauen that mine owne truth shal be mine owne persecutor, hold, accept this Tygers head, which I haue kild to kill my selfe, and to giue thee that life of vnspeakeable contentment, which Angels would bee proud to enioy, and the Gods themselues will enuy, because it is the greatest of all terrestriall deities. And as hee was thus speaking, amazement had such fast hold vpon *Diasaffan*, or rather bashfulnesse, which was afraid to vsurpe vpon a right, to which it could make no possible iust claime, that it held his hands from receiuing the trophy, whose honour did nothing at all become a minde so farre short in deserft and worthines. But *Thirsis* with more aggrauation awakned him saying; Nay, do not let pitty make thee miserable, accept it, indeed you shall accept it: why, my life is so due a rent vnto you, that in taking it, you take no more but your owne: nay, hardly all your owne: for had I many liues, they were but many tributes, and should (to auoyd more euill) bee all paid in this moment. Do not looke so sadly: for all

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## The second part of the first Booke

the ioyes in the world are faine into your possession ;  
forget me, I pray thee forget me, and henceforth re-  
member nothing but thine owne happynesse, which  
is so farre frome equalling , that *Jupiter* himselfe doth  
exceed thee in nothing but eternity. And here hee  
thrust the dart (on which the Tygers head was faste-  
ned) with such earnestnesse into his hand, that *Dia-  
taffan* receiuing it, began to say ; Thy sorrowes, and  
my pitty (deere Sheepheard.) My sorrowes (said  
*Thirsis*) interrupting the Sheepheard) o do not mixe  
them with thy pitty, since they are so vterly without  
bound, that no remorse hath a circumference large  
enough to containe them. O let them liue with  
themselues : for they are many degrees beyond mor-  
tall calamities, and shall serue hereafter, for *Lamen-  
tations* Maister-pecece, by whose example hee shall  
modell out strange afflictions. As for my selfe I am  
the onely wretched caitife of the world , a man so  
much scorned of all creatures, that wickednesse it  
selfe is a subiect too good for my disdaine. I beseech  
thee, since my faith hath paid thee all thou didst de-  
sire, though not all thou hast deserued, suffer me to  
passe where I may dye, and be no more remembred;  
Anchor-like ingrauing my selfe so obscurely, that no  
gentle hand shall haue power to fixe to the same, ei-  
ther the teares of louing Sheepheards, or any other  
more charitable Epitaph. And when hee had thus  
said, he deliverner to *Diataffan* whatsoeuer had passed  
betwixt the Princessse and him in the chace, the man-  
ner of their contention, the doubtfulnesse of their  
course , their interposing one another with their  
darts, and all other priuate actions whatsoeuer, for-  
tifying

tifying his remembrance with such strength of knowledge, that it was impossible for the strictest examination to disproue him, or say he was absent, who was able to giue an account much more certaine then any of those which were present. This done, and not suffering *Diasaffan* to giue him any reply, he turned about & departed towards the woods, and mountaines, to seek out a place conuenient, where his life might expire.

After whose foot-steps as *Diasaffan* with much admiration gazed, he said; Go the constantest, the faithfulllest, the thankfulllest, & the worthiest sheepheard which this earth supporteth, thou that hast thoughts so farre exceeding all thoughts in true worthinesse; and a vertue so good, beyond the reach of our earthly knowne goodnessse, that men can finde no excellency deseruing the dignity to be compared with thy perfections. Goe, and my prayers accompany thy safety, whilst the diuine hand of some powerfull deity may gently dew vpon thy temples, some cold *Le-she* to awage the burning passions of thy true loue, and exile it into eternall obliuion. But foole that I am, what auaileth my wishes to the losse of his preious life, which euен now is vnder the arrest of a languishing destruction? Alasse! I am become vnnaturally cruell, nor shall all the Annals of tyrants, preserued from succeeding ages, equall, or come neere to the bloodinesse of my president; I do not slaughter a subiect, but a companion; not a foe to my peace, but the onely friend of my quiet; not a disturbing riuall of my loue, but the onely builder vp of mine affectious satisfaction; not he that hath robbed

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

me of mine honour, but he that hath giuen me a renowne beyond imagination, whereby I am become vngratefull to friendship, rebellious to hospitality, a destroyer of vertue, a theefe to reputation; nay, a traytor to all goodnessse, and the onely monster that nature, or vglinessse can produce: and shall I liue to liue with these imputations? I will not, alasse I will not; my tardy feet shall bee winged to beare him backe his owne true glories, nor will I Impe my fame with feathers whiche are too glorious for my wings.

And here, as his passion was whirl-winde-like carrring him in pursuit of the most forlotne *Thiris*, selfe-loue (who in all this worke had the onely soueraignty ouer all his determinations) staid him, and compelling him to looke earnestly vpon the Tygers head, hee said; Alas! for pitty, that this toy should not onely burne and consume in me the knowledge of all mine owne goodnessse, but (committing a murther worse then sacriledge) sprinkle sad teares ouer all *Theffaly*. *Troy*, thou werst happy in thy cinders: for the brand which kindled thy flames, was the compleatnesse of all beauties; but this, which will lay waste the only glorious garden of *Europe*, is the grim detested visage of a man-hating monster, shall I then hold it? deere madnesse forsake mee, I will not, in truth I will not.

And here he would the second time haue posted after *Thiris*, but then Loue sprinkling his thoughts with new flowers, he said; And is this Tygers head all that disturbeth me, or kils the desperate sheepheard? O no, this is nothing but the plaine-fac'd monstrous obiect in a perspective table, through whose secret

secret crany, if I cast my eies slope-wise, I shall then behold the beauty of all beauties, euен the day of life, and the light of mortall admiration I meane, the neuer-enough-adored *Melidora*: she without whom my heart can enjoy no pleasure, nor my life comfort: Shall I then giue away my owne life for anothers delight, or become miserable to make another flourish, with my riches? it is both vnlawfull, and vnreasonable; charity ought to beginne in our selues, and thence to succeed to our friends, and not preposterosly to pine our owne fortunes for the making vp of an others happiness: Pardon mee Thirsis, for since thou hast thrust occasions fore-top into my hand, and giuen mee opportunity to aspire to the height of all contentment, I must and will enjoy it, my pitty extending vnto thee the almes of my best wishes, but not depriuing mee of the blisse of mine excellent destiny: And with this resolution hee went into his Cabinet, where hee placed the head of the Tyger in much safety, making many prayers and orisons vnto Time, that hee would make swifter his pace, and cut short the length of the tedious night, so infinitely were his desires transported with an unsatisfied longing for the next day.

And thus (my most worthy sounē) you haue from an ill-tuned lippe heard all whatsocuer is already passed in this doubtfull story of much worldly disaster, wherein fortune is pleased to bee so much like her selfe, both in cruelty and incertainety, that nothing can bee more memorable to make vp the perfite charracter of her Deity: as for the conclusion, or making vp of the last act in this stage-play of for-

## *The second part of the first Booke*

tunes onely inuention, I would haue your selfe (my sonne) in it , not onely a vertuous sp ector, but (when the tiranny of falsehood shall adiuge truth to eternall banishment ) such a worthy actor, that discouering the deuouring couetousnesse of selfe-loue, you may bring vertue backe from exile, and defend it against all the assaults of enuious mutability.

To these words the Prince replied : Sleight, and but supposed intreaties (deere father) do easily enflame a mind to pursue it's owne desires, because the strength of nature armeth our opinions that there can bee no greater goodnesse; and so in mee , whom your wisedome hath (with the feeling deliuernace of this delicate discourse) not onely stirred vp , but so firmly bound , with all willingnesse and delight, to pursue this aduenture, be well assured my desires are so strong and violent , that no occasion shall withdraw mine eies from beholding the last passage in the same; therefore I beseech you giue me such instruction , as may with the best assurance conduct me to the place where these aduentures are nourished, and doubt not but my resolution, which euer hitherto hath bene grounded vpon vertuous causes, shall so bring to passe the worthy ends of your desires , that you shall imagine your imployment nobly inferred vpon me.

In that (faire Prince) answered the old man, there is neither scruple nor doubt, for thy fate hath yet an eu'en and well-spun thrid, which fortunes hand shall not disfigure with knots; therefore, touching thine instructions, both to the place, and in the place, know, that

that not farre from my Cell the way lies broad, euen, and much frequented, leading directly to those Launds where both standeth the *Amphi-theater*, and the Lodge of the Princesse, to this way my selfe will be your guide, and because the denial of seuere lawes will not suffer any of supreme or eminent quality, to be eie-witnesses of the least pleasure in that delightfull Garden; death, as it were, girdling it about, and defending it from all authority of greatnessse; Know, that within my Cell I haue a Sheepheards suise, comely and wel-fashioned, whose cap being with diuers foulds, made Helmet like, in such manner, that being drawne ouer the visage, no eie is able to acknowledge his most best acquaintance. In this you shall adorne your selfe (though too humble for your excellencie) and playing the part not of a rude and barberous Heardes-man, but of a wittily conceited and learned Pastor, enter into that worke which shall make your fame glorious for euer. As for your horse, armour, and other imbellishments belonging to your person, you shall leau them heere in my Cell, where they shall abide vnder the guarde of as great safety, as if they were enclosed in the Brazen Turret of the God of Security.

To these admonitions, the Prince giuing a willing and wel-pleased eare, hee told the old Prophet that his words were to him Oracles of such reverence and dignity, that not the least tittle or hidensse in them should either be disobeyed, or vnsatisfied, and thus eithers resolution being so well combined and married together, that Deity could discerne in them but one intire thought; the Sunne wearied with

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

the great child-birth of delights, which proceeded from the trauell of that bigge day; whose twinnes made him wantonly neglect the swift pace of his most const int course, fearefull that *Jupiter* should suppose hee had found another Nymph farre excelling his *Daphne*, like a *Meteor* falling from the high heauens, hee euен in one inoment descended from the Mountaines, & nestled his head in the boſome of diuine *Iberis*, where shaking his danke lockes, hee restored to the earth the siluer dew which hee had suckt vp in the morning, whilst the euening, trimming vp the nights rusty *Caroch*, gaue warning to mens labours of her blacke appearance.

This, when the Prince, and *Eugenio* beheld, they retired themselves into the Prophets Cell, where after they had taken a moderate repast, they coucht them downe vpon two feuerall homely (but yet most sweete) Cabens: Where the Prince, al-be there was nothing which could giue him either offence or distast, yet the calme silence of the dumbe night (which euer is a friend to disturbed and cumbersome cogitations) so clens'd from his Temples the enchanting cold, sweete dew of delightfull slumber, that his active and perturbed spirit, partly through his next daies exploit, but most especially for the losse of his dearest of all friends, the most excellent *Thamastus*, would suffer no rest to close vp the liddes of his eies, but he lay and gaue full scope to his imaginations to tyranize ouer his quiet, tumbling himselfe vp and downe, and oft changing place, though he would neuer change his perturbation, till the day, who had slept out the night in the quiet lap of the Ocean,

Ocean, began to lift vp his head , and ouer the tops of the highest Mountaines to take a generall surveye of halfe part of the world , which as soone as the Prince *Adunatus* perceiued, being wearied that he was so much weary of that , which might haue preserued him from wearinesse, arose, and in his rising gaue alarum, as it were, to the old mans rest , who abashed (that youth should giue him the president for wakefulness) start from his Cabin , and after accomlymentall morning salutations , they attired themselues , the old man in his ordinary and daily habits , but the Prince in his Sheepheards suite, whose homely plainenesse was so mixt with a proportionall and decent comeliness , that it was a disputable question , whether his person (which was euer marchlesse for delicacy) or his attire were the greater ornament.

As soone as the Prince was in all points attired according to the will of the old man , and had receiu'd his former instructions from words of stronger efficacy(signifying the dilligence of his carefulnesse) they late downe, and did eate of those homely cates which the season of the time , and the old mans industry had prouided; which finished they issued out of the Cell, *Eugenio* leading the way, and the Prince in his Sheepherdish disguise , with a strong knotty Sheep-crooke in his hand, following his foote-steps till they came to that large, faire, even, and much frequented path which leads to those pleasant Walkes where all the Sheepheards inhabited , there the old Prophet tooke his leaue of the Prince; for hee told him it would breed danger to the happinesse of the

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## *The second part of the first Booke*

designe which so vertuously they pursued, if any eie  
should discouer him in his company ; and therefore  
willing him to retaine that constant resolution,  
which with so much goodnesse he had begotten, and  
with so much honour he should perfite, he departed  
from the Prince , and returned backe to the holy  
Chappell of the God whom hee serued , where hee  
made many earnest, and wel-spoken orizons for the  
prosperous fortune, and successefull end of their vn-  
hurifull project.

The Prince being left alone , and nothing to ac-  
company him but the tedious way and his owne  
thoughts, both most busie intelligencers of the af-  
fares and diuersties of fortune, being now big with  
child, of much longing, and many hopes, he trauel-  
led as well with his mind as his body, till he came in-  
to those Launds , where hee not onely beheld the  
Sheepheards habitations, but also the Lodge of the  
Princesse, and the stately building of the huge *Am-*  
*phitheater*, to which place onely he directed his steps,  
for he might behold many swarmes of people with  
an extraordinary pace flocking to the same , as  
though the expence of the day, or their owne slouth  
should bring them too late to that blest sight, which  
with an vnusuall violence they both pursued and de-  
sired ; the notice whereof, when it had taken in the  
Prince a considerate impression, he, in imitation of  
their dilligence, made a little more then vsuall hast,  
so that ioyning himselfe with the presse and throng  
of the vulgar sort of people, he entred into the *Thea-*  
*ter* vnregarded , and without any especiall notice ta-  
ken of his presence; where he placed himselfe in such

a con-

## Of the English Arcadia. 50

a conuenient roome, both for his obscurit y, and publication, when the necessity of time should call him forth to the same, that neither the enuy, nor delight of any eie was troubled with his presence.

The morning was as yet but yong, and in his infant weakenesse, so that neither the Judges, Challengers, nor Challenged appeared in this great assembly, but they sate feeding their thoughts with expectations, longings, and those prophesying cogitations which are euer the companions of the eies hopes. But time, whieh like a man vpon high scatches can keepe any pace but standing still, ranne so swiftly post vpon the slow howres, that immediately the assembly , which were but onely the eie-ornaments of that great place, might heare the sound of many excellent loud instruments, which entring first into the Theater, their followed them in couplets all the Woodmen and Forresters belonging to those Launds, after them came a noyse of Sheepheards Bag-pipes compouned of many multitudes of Reedes , whose foote-steps were pursued likewise in couplets by all those Sheepheards who had bene actors in the former daies controuersy , and after them succeeded a consort of Rebeckes , and other more milder sounding instruments, curiously toucht by the fingers of most skilfull artizans, after whom came , in a triumphant equipage , the two worthy Sheepheards *Colni* and *Oppicus*, leading prisoner betweene them that monster and disgrace of men , the great out-law and rauisher most cruell *Demagoras*: Then appeared single by himselfe the vndisguised *Diasaffan*, bearing (with an vnblushing cheeke, or any other intelligen-

## The second Part of the first Booke

cing countenance) vpon the point of a rich Iaueling faire-guilt, veluet-bound, and gold-studded; the head of the Tiger: Next him followed two yong Sheep-heards (bare-headed and in like suites of apparell) the one bearing the Princesse Bow, and the other her Quiuer; Next whom, followed her diuine person, all vayled ouer in rich Lawnes, wrought with most curios spider-works: And a pretty distance behind her came a mixture of twelue Lutes, rarely toucht by the fingers of twelue faire Virgines; then three other yong Sheepheards bare-headed, who vshered the three Judges richly clad in robes of crimson veluet, bordered and powdered with all manner of curios flowers, skilfully imbrodered on the same; the Nymph *Apheleia* being chiefe, and the two Nymphs *Ethera* and *Clea* her equall assistants; after them came in couplets all the Nymphs and Virgines belonging to those Walkes, and in this manner, of most Prince-ly Pastorall solemnity, they entred into the Theater, taking their places on those rich and stately adorned Scaffolds, which were with great dilligence onely preserued for their vse and imployment: The Judges being inthroned in the frontespice, or face of that huge round; and the Challenged and Challengers on either hand of their state & magnificence; All which orderly & court-like proceeding, when the Princely *Adunatus* beheld he was stricken into an admiratiōn beyond wonder, his minde easily perswaded to beleue, that the first state and pompe of greatnessse was borrowed from these humble manner of people, no rule in Heraldry being able to marshall a troupe with greater dignity and splendor.

Now

Now when euery creature was set in silent admiration of what would insue from this great wombe of perfect wonder, no sence supposing that any crosse-fortune could cloud the sun-shine of their delights, there was solemnly made, with a most audible voice over the whole Theater, a distinct and wel-delivered Proclamation, for a generall silence; and then was read the commission from the Princesse, declaring her free consent, and absolute resignation of all her particular authority into the hands of those well-elected judges there present, and the strong couenant wherein she had bound her selfe, without all euasions, to yeeld and humble her person to bee wholly disposed by their censures; her great name, place, and most supreame soueraignty being freely giuen vp to the customes of their pastorall lawes, and the chance of such fortune as should that day attend vpon her. And this being read, there was a second proclamation made, commanding all such persons as could, by vertue of that writ, or any other accident happened in the former daies controuersie, make any challenge to the prizes there extant, to stand forth and make his chalenge, and hee should receiuie all indifferent hearing, and iustice.

The last of this proclamation was hardly departed from the proclaimers lips, when the courtly Sheep-heard *Diasaffan* arose, and with his grim Trophy in his hand, placing himselfe before the faces of the Judges, after solemne reverence (as dissimulation neuer wanteth any enchanting garbe that may breed contentment) he thus spake vnto them.

You sacred and well-elected judges of the great

## *The second part of the first Booke*

workes of the last great day, whose euен and direct  
eyes are never turned from the obiect of diuine e-  
quity; if the liberall hand of man-aduaancing For-  
tune, hath, from the true regard of my loyalty, and  
the vnfigned zeale of my faith, which euer hath pre-  
serued in me a seruiceable affection (vnmatchable  
by any others imitation) bestowed vpon mine hum-  
ble seruices, that rich and vnspeakable dignity which  
none but deitie it selfe can iustly presume to merit:  
or if my painefull actions in the last dayes trauell, of  
which, not onely this bleeding Trophy, but the ge-  
nerall eyes of the most part of this assembly, are di-  
rect and vnfained witnesses, haue made mee power-  
fully worthy to chalenge the greatest blessing that  
this earth containeth; a fate so farre beyond the cir-  
cuit of my hopes (though euer anext to my wishes)  
that my humble spirit yet trembleth to demand the  
faire gift of my destiny: then to your most worthy  
iudgements I appeale, and craue that iustice which  
belongeth to my fortune, which is the most blis-  
full interest in this all-excelling great Ladies seruice;  
at whose feet, in all humility, I lay downe this en-  
signe of my conquest, and with it my true heart, ar-  
med with so great zeale, and devoute adoration to  
her vertues, that neither time nor death shall weare  
out the truth of mine affection. When hee had thus  
spoken, the Nymph *Aphelias* standing vp, made this  
reply to het sheepheard.

Faire and renowned yong man, whose active ex-  
cellency hath aduanced thine admiration farre be-  
yond all thy companions, and set thee vp in the high-  
est throne of euery creatures affection, making thy  
praises

praises run vpon mens tonges, through euery corner of the world; because (as I suppose) thy contention was onely to shew thy vertue, not to retaine any benefite contained in the proclamation, more then an honourable power to bestow thy purchase backe, whence it was lost; From the rarenesse of which action, men shall renowne thy bountie, setting *Hercules* pillars vpon thy fortune, and forbidding the whole world to goe any further in the act of Iustice and Goodnesse. Know then, that since election hath made me the Instrument to giue sentence in this altogether vndoubefull achiuement, I can doe no lesse then giue you what you haue most worthily wonne. Onely one taske our commission bindeth vs to impose vpon you, which I feare me (faire Sheepheard) is a labour too hard for your faith. You must, here, before the face of this great assembly, with all plainnesse of spirit, and auoyding the damned craft of mentall reseruation, abiure, and renounce all forraigne loues and affections, assuring vs by your solemne vowes, contained in most effectuall protestations, that your minde is cleere and free from all deuotion and service to any Nymph, except her alone, whom you haue gained by this most worthy conquest.

To this the Sheepheard thus replyed; You haue (faire Nymph) imposed on mee a taske so facile and easie, that I shall quickly passe through the same without any perturbation: for here, in the sight of heauen, and this famous pastorall assembly, I vow.

At this word the Nymph ~~Apheleia~~ interrupted him, saying; Sheepheard what wilt thou vow? O bee mindfull

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

mindfull of thy vertue, and doe not wilfully run into  
damn'd periury.

But *Diasaffan* replyed, I am resolued, nor shall euer my faith wauer, or remoue from a resolution grounded vpon so much excellency. Heare me then you Judges, and you people : for here I vow by the great Deity of *Minerva*, by our holy Saboths, and those chaste pleasures which makes our liues admired in all places, that on earth I reuerence, adore, and with sacred and chaste thoughts loue no Nymph but this diuine Lady. Neither is my faith inchained, nor hath my lippes giuen my heart to any, but onely her seruice ; In which my desires are, that I may consummate my life, though a tribute much too humble for her worthinesse.

Neuer did tongue deliuier deeper falsehoods (cryed out the Nymph *Apheleia*) and with that, throwing her rich robe from her shoulders, shee descended from her high throne, and placing her lookes in iust opposition with the eyes of *Diasaffan*, she said ; Perjur'd and disloyall man , thou which makest a common mart of loue , exchanging thy faith for euery gaud, and spangle, which doth but adorne a womans countenance : behold here, before these Judges and people, I accuse thee of periury to my selfe, treason to this faire Princesse, and of generall disgrace to all chaste and noble affection. Heare me you Judges, I beseech you : This man (the blemish of mankind) first in *Minerva's* Temple, and in the hower of Orijons and Sacrifice, with as strong protestations as a violent loue could beget from a braine inflamed with a restlesse desire, he made tender vnto me of all his

his faith, his zeale, and his purest affection ; vowing that but my selfe, he never beheld the Nymph whose eye had power to fixe any fetter of liking in his bo-some : to which *Circean* charme, when I had vnfortunately lent my (then too easie) care, hee, with all earnestnesse, so greedily pursued the weaknessse of my beliefe; that againe, at *Minerva's* Fountaine renewing his oathes (for which heauens pardon him) hee so amplifies his solicitation of loue ; that abiu-ring all happinesse whensoeuer he should bee found recreant, or in the least imaginary sence, giue cause of doubt in his constancy, hee wonne from mee a chast consent of honourable affection; which vnfor-tunatly there I sealed, by the gift of a curious Jewell, which either he still possesseth, or negligently hath consumed ; and now, with a *Manitanian* counte-nance, sunne-burnt, and made blacke with the burn-ing sinne of his falsehood, hee shameth not onely to deny the act of his owne lippes, but, to the great disgrace of all Shepheards, makes holy vowes of no reputation; which if it shall finde sufferance in your iustice, or that no law be found penall for such inhuinane deceit, then let your Temples bee still prophaned with such Idols, let your greene walkes wither with the foot-steps of vnworthy creatures, and make your selues mistresses of nothing but calumny, and imputation.

This speech, delivered by the Nymph, with many abruptions of sighes and teares, wonne a feeling remorse in all the assembly, *Diasaffan* onely excep-ted, whose heart being fixed vpon another obie&t, had no place left wherein to retaine any pitty; and

## *The second part of the first Booke*

to approue that the vse of sinne makes men sinne with more easinesse, having now entred himselfe within the lists of disgrace and falsehood (shame arming him against shame) hee will, in despight of all oppositions, run through the worst of loues iniurie; and therefore, with a cheeke much more vnlushing then before, he thus spake to the Judges: Faire Nymphes, within whose lippes my life consisteth, I take this day to be elected, not for the examination of old loues, coupled to much dotage, nor for the expence of Idle howers, fild full of our vanities; but to adiudge, in truth and vprightnesse, the deserts of euery mans fortune in this last dayes trouersie: which if it be so, I beseech you, let not the blemish which this too-much-louing maid inflieth on my never-stained faith, take vp any place in your eares, but according to the pastorall lawes, and customes of these faire walkes, let mee receiuie that iust sentence which belongeth both to mine actions and painfull seruice; and so much the rather, in that by my former abiuration, I haue made it cleere, that my faith standeth free, and vn-intangled with any forreigne affection.

To this the Nymph *Clos* made answere, It is true, Sheepheard, this is not a day to giue balme to any old vlcers, our Commission beeing created to another particular purpose: Yet thus much let mee assure thee, If thou shalt bee found of that mutability of spirit, to make a pastime in the abuse of pure virgins, the lawes of *Minerva* will lye heauy vpon thee, and thou shalt bee bound to answere thy deceit, whensoeuer the Injured shall be pleased

to

to call thee. And when she had thus said, she turned herselfe to the Nymph *Aphelcia*, and besought her, (since neither the time, place, nor strength of their Commission, could giue her wrongs satisfaction) to assume againe her place, and finish the work of their election; which shee obeying, in her passage to her throne, she presently said thus to the Shepheard; cruellest of men, why me, aboue others, hast thou made the shame of thy disdaine? Blush, repent, be not damned for euer; and so againe adorning herselfe in her robe of State, shee sate downe, and intreated the Nymph *Cloe* to deliuer the sentence, for her lippes should never doe so worthy a Princesse wrong, to adiudge her a seruant swolne so monstrous bigge with all indignity.

The Nymph obeying her request, commanded *Diasaffan* and the Princesse both to stand forth, and then charged him by the faith and loyalty of a true Shepheard, to declare, if according to the Articles contained in the proclamation, he had, without the assistance of Charme, or Inchantment, the strength of any other arme, or the deceit of aduantage, not onely ouer-run the Princesse in the Chace, but also slaine that fierce beast before shee could fasten any dart in his skinne. To which, with a great oath, hee replyed, that himselfe, and no other creature, but his particular person, without all aduantage, or deceit, had slaine the Tyger in such ample manner as the proclamation required: to which, as he was calling *Melidora* herselfe for a testimony, the most Princely *Adunatus*, rising suddenly frō his seat, and clapping his hand on the shoulder of *Diasaffan*,

## The second Part of the first Booke

son, hee said ; Sheepheard, thou hast lyed before this  
vertuous assembly, as deepe as hell: for it was nei-  
ther thine arme nor foot which was guilty of the  
conquest against this vertuous Princesse, but the  
vnfortunate power of the euer-truly louing *Thiris*,  
who, armed in thy disguise, conquered, and gaue  
thee the conquest, which with such ostentation thou  
most vntruly boastest; And here he deliuered vnto  
the Judges, at large, the manner of *Thiris* delivery  
from the Inchanter, and all other passages betweene  
them, till that present; which he offered there to iusti-  
fie with his life, and the losse of the best bloud he en-  
joyed. Which assertion, and vnxpected accusation,  
uttered so suddenly from a Sheepheard, whose  
tongue, nor person, no man knew, nor could chal-  
lenge, draue all the assembly into so strange an a-  
mazement, that the generall murmur, which soun-  
ded ouer all the house, was so great, (though no  
words could be distinguished) that the Judges were  
forc'd (a while) to stay in their proceedings, the most  
giuing credit to the report of the yong Sheepheard,  
though some few supposed it to be a stratagem of  
enui's inuention; but no mans wonder could be cō-  
pared to *Diasaffans*, who hearing his secret thoughts  
publickly vnsolded, imagined some spirit was risen  
from Limbo to detect the iniustice of his actions, but  
being armed with his former resolution, and hauing  
waded to the waste in his iniquity, willing now to  
step vp to the chinne ere any reuolt should doe him  
shame, he, with a mind as ful of desperation as affeſti-  
on, made anſwere to the ſtrange Sheepheard, that his  
mouth was full of slander, and his heart of mallice:  
for

for greater vntruths could not proceed from falsehood himself then were those accusations, which he most vniustly, and from a villanous nature imposed vpon him, which he swore he would make him confess, vnder the fatall power of his reuenging arme; and with that falling vpon his knees he besought the Judges to grant him the benefit of their antient Lawes, which was, by a Pastorall combat with Sheepheards-crookes to approue his truth and vNSTAINED fidelity: But scarcely were his knees bended, when the Prince ~~Aduarius~~ likewise bowed his to the ground, and made humble petition for the selfe-same fauour; but whilst they were vpon the ground, intreating for that which must, of force, be one of their confusions, there entred into the Thea-  
ter another disguised Sheepheard, whose face being concealed not any could fixe acquaintance to his person: Before him went a Sheepheards boy, bearing in his hand a strong & wel-knotted Sheephook, who as soone as hee was arriued before the Judges, by the mouth of the boy hee delinered these spee-ches.

Faire Virgines, and the elected mouthes of Iu-  
stice and wisedome; vertue, was never without enuy,  
nor is there any scale to aduancement without dan-  
ger, as appeareth by the controuersy of these two  
Sheepheards, the one falsly accusing, the other false-  
ly accused; For this Sheepheard will heere approue  
by the strength of his arme, and the vse of this wea-  
pon, that all which this strange Sheepheard hath  
spoken is false, and onely from malice inuented; nei-  
ther can you in iustice refuse hisappeale, for these

## *The second part of the first Booke*

many reasons: First, there is no equality that hee, whose dignity and merite is knowne and assured, should hazard the greatnessse of his fortune, vpon one, whose obscurity can giue no assurance of any worth; Next, the title and assertion he defendeth belongeth to another and not to himselfe; so that being but anothers Champion, it is reasonable that this worthy Sheepeheard enioy the like fauour, which my Maister likewise a stranger, equall in euery merite (till further knowledge approue the contrary) is willing to vnder-go, desiring that *Diasaffan* may bee discharged, and his fortune made the arbitrator of this doubtfulnesse.

The Judges demanded of *Diasaffan* if hee would consent to this request? and he, whose owne self-guiltiness, was worse then the sword of any publicke enemy, said.

That the consideration of the reasons before rehearsed, and not to dis-regard any benefite sent from the hand of fortune, made him will to consent that the tryall of his truth should depend vpon the fortune of this his vnknowne friend: But *Adonatus* said, let them both bee ioyned in the battle, for I am so safely guarded with sincere and religious truth that a whole Army cannot affright mee; After which wordes the combat was granted, onely betweene the two strange Sheepheards, whom, after *Melio* and *Amistas* had searcht, and assured from all matter of aduantage, and taken both measure and suruey of their Sheep-hookees, they were brought into a place, which euer was preserued in the Theater, for such purposes, and onely sixe Sticklers to effect the will  
and

and commandements of the Judges; and the loud instruments sounding a martiall flourish, they assayled one another with such vnspeakeable violence that the God of Warre might haue learnt much skil from their furies: The battle was fierce, tedious, and doubtfull, death houering equally betweene them, yet not much affected to either of their fortunes; in the end, each of them ashamed of their owne weakenesse, and possest with thoughts of one creation, which enuied the losse of so much time, turning their staues aboue their heads, they let them fall on each other with such heauy poise, that like the ruines of a falling Tower, they threatned destruction to all they touched; but with the active nymblenesse of their deliuier spirits they auoided that storme, and closing themselves body to body their grew a new combat betweene their feete as fierce as that of their hands, seeking by artificiall trippes to bring each other to the ground; which, when neither by any industry preuailed, they flew backe againe to the vse of their weapons, and in that retrait, striking at each other, the blowes were not so well defended but that they tooke off both their cappes, and left their faces naked and bare to the view of the whole assembly, so that *Adunatus* knew his aduersary, whom all those people had euer acknowledged for the incomparable best-louing Sheepheard, renowned *Thiris*, to bee his onely best of friends, the most Princely *Thamastus*, in whose search hee had vowed to consume the whole substance of his life; and *Thamastus*, who so long had liued in those Walkes knowne onely by the name of *Thiris*, knew that his aduersary

## *The second Part of the first Booke*

aduersary *Adunatus*, was the most excellent Prince *Pyrophilus*, to whose loue his life was linkt in such euerlasting bonds, that no ioy on earth could equall the delight of his presence: and now beholding each others face, they suddainely fell downe vpon both their knees, *Pyrophilus* offering to yeeld his weapon vp to *Thamastus*, and *Thamastus* as earnest to resigne his to *Pyrophilus*, both, in this conquest, willing to be conquered, and neither content to rise as a victor, Which accident , driuing all the people into a strange amazement, one of the Stickleres was commanded to demand of them which was the victor, and they both with one voyce replyed, hee, and hee, and then throwing their weapons from them , they ranne and embrased each other , with so much loue that friendship neuer bare a better countenance then at present ; and the Stickler informed the Judges that they both were ouer-come, yet neither conquered, at which every creature rejoysed , because their actions shewed them to be creatures of heroycall Spirits, but aboue all their ioyes exceeded at the sight of *Thirsis* , as well for the tender affection they bore to his presence , as also in that his knowledge was able to resolute that doubt , which yet stukke most strongly in the breasts of that assembly, and here-vpon the Judges coniured *Thirsis* , by all his owne vertues , and by that loue which with such faithfulnessse he bore to the Princesse , to declare if he were any actor in the former daies controuersy; and he made answere no, for his dispaire had long-since chidden from him all such hope , and that it was most assured, there was no other true victor then the

the best-deseruing *Diasassan*: This protestation, gwe  
euery one, but the Princesse, and *Adonatus*, a full sa-  
tisfaction: And now were *Diasassans* hopes once  
more gotten vp to the high top-gallant of his am-  
bition, and he beganne, as busily as before, to craue  
the sentence due to his merite.

But *Oppicus* and *Colin*, stepping furth, (because the  
day began to grow a little aged) and besought the  
Judges, before they proceeded to any other sentence  
first to giue doome vpon that wickedest of all crea-  
tures, that *Theefe*, and most lustfull rauisher of Vir-  
gines, the euer-feared *Demagoras*, whom in their pur-  
suite of the chase, they had found ambuscadoed to  
take aduantage of euery weake fortune, with whom  
having held a long and tedious fight, in the end,  
through their double force they tooke prisoner, and  
there delivered vp to the iudgement of their Lawes,  
which said: *Minerva's* lawes were forth-with read  
to the prisoner, who pleaded guilty to all, and ac-  
cusing his bad fortune that it was culpable of no  
more culle, vowed that if his raigne had longer con-  
tinued he would haue made all *Theffaly* haue quakt  
with the report of his cruelties, vpon which despe-  
rate and diuelish protestation, the Nymph *Aphelcia*  
gave sentence, that hee should immediately bee  
bound to a stake (there erected in that Theater for  
such like executions) and so shot to death with the  
arrowes of Shepheards, Which execution, being  
forth-with put in practise, and the prisoner standing  
bound to the mercy of his death; hee besought the  
Shepheards, before they discharged their arrowes  
in his boosome, to giue attentiuue care vnto his last

Q

speech;

## *The second part of the first Booke*

speech; and they by their silence let him vnderstand that they gave consent to his desire, so that lifting his voyce on high, he thus spake vnto them.

Know you *Thefalsans* to whose powers, and not trespasses, my life is forfeited, that it is not your sleight crimes, sheepish pillages, nor the disburdening of a few too-long borne Mayden-heads, (by your Language called rauishments) for which I die; no, my damnation was long since created, and the crying sinne which hath inuokt the Gods to lay this shame on my fortune, was an a& so monstrous and barbarous, that a hunger-sterued Tyger would not haue presumed vpon so huge a cruelty.

Know then that I was borne in the Kingdome of *Dalmatia*, where whilst I liued, accompanied with any vertue, I was a Duke, and Gouvernour of a faire Prouince, my name *Astense*; And here hee made a pause.

Whilst the Nymph *Apheleis*, starting from her seate, beganne to gaze strangely about her, and to fixe her eares to his words with a more earnest attention; then he proceeded.

In this Kingdome of *Dalmatia*, there raigned a King of infinite wisedome and prowesse, approued both by his conquests and peacefull governement: the one keeping in awe his neighbours, the other making rich his subiects: This King was blest with one onely most excellent daughter, whose rauishing beauty had so inflamed my heart, with all the burning torches of loue, that nothing was plenteous in my thoughts but onely the memory of her excellencies, but this loue of mine was soone made desperate

perate by the arriuall of the yong Prince of *Sicil*, who hauing formerly negotiated a mariage, the articles were soone concluded on both parties; so that heere vertue began to forsake mee, and from hence iealousy, frenzy, and enuy, stirred vp in my soule all the vnspeakeable mischieves which euer were accurst by good people: And finding that my loue was verterly without hope, I now studied how to make the world and men as voide of all comfort, so it chanced, that on a day comining into the presence of the yong Princesse, I found her in chast and noble dalliance with the yong Prince her troth-plight seruant, at whose happiness, my enuy so much repined, that drawing forth a strong and most impoysoned fume (which I euer carried about mee) I cast it vpon her face, whose contagious working was so violent, that shee instantly died in the armes of her deere loued Lord and admirer, with whose breath, her soule flying forth, it carried from the earth, all beauty, all vertue, all excellency, all goodnessse; as for my selfe, whose damned act euen the diuels themselues did repine at, I presently fled and came into these Walkes, which being most famous for all manner of peacefull happinessse, I vowed to make most desolate and accursed, through my tiranny, cruelty, and iniury, and heere againe hee made a great pause. The while the Nymph *Aphelias*, whose passion could no longer smother her speeches, demanded of the dying man, what was the name of her, whom he so impoysoned? And he answered, that her name was *Clara Stellæ*, Shee then demanded the name of the Prince of *Sicil*? And he replyed, *Eustathio*: And what

Q. 2

(said

## The second Part of the first Booke

(said she) became of the Prince after the death of his infortunate Lady? Report (replied *Demagoras*) bruted, that hee ranne to the topes of the Mounaines, and thence threw him selfe head-long into the Seas.

But hee had scarcely pronounced his last word, when *Diasassen*, no longer able to imprison his fury, rusht thorough the throng, and comming neerer the prisoner, hee said; Monster of men, and the vtter detestation of thy mothers wombe, know that *Eustacio* is not dead, but liues to take a deeper reuenge of thine vnnaturall cruelty: for euen my selfe am that once vnfotunate Prince, who being exiled from all ioy, by the tyranny of thy malice; after I had caused rumour to blazon my death, (that pursuit might not hinder my purpose) I came into these walks, where, in a Sheepheards coat, I vow to consume the remnant of my dayes in vaste solitude.

And then turning to the Judges, he besought them, that himselfe might adde torments to his death, who had annext endlesse calamities to his life. But the Nymph *Aphelias* replied, that it was contrary to their lawes, which beeing grounded vpon pitty and commiseration, rather affoorded ease then agony to the afflicted: and so (said she) for mine owne part, I will giue his departing soule some satisfaction, and disburden it of that with which it appears to bee most crucified.

And then turning her speeches to the prisoner, shee said; My Lord *Astense*, I beseech you repent your last crimes: for touching your great trespasses,

of

*Of the English Arcadia.* 55

of which you seeme to retaine the greatest feeling,  
I thus purge you: Know that I am that *Clara-Stella*  
which your enuy seeking to destroy the dumbe poy-  
fon, much more merciful then your malice, wrought  
not his effects so strongly as to take away my life,  
but onely brought mee to a dead sleepe, which  
time banishing from my sences, I returned to my  
former knowledge; But missing him, whose Image  
onely was ingrauen vpon my heart, I fledde in dis-  
guise from the Court, and came into *Tempe*,  
where I vowed the expence of my life in the ser-  
vice of the Gods, and the chaste delights of modest  
virgins.

And hauing thus spoken, *Diasfan* fell vpon his knees to the ground, and humbly besought her to pardon him, for in her alone was confiued all his true loue, and all his most faithfull affection.

But shee told him; shee durst not give credit where shee had found so much strange inconstancy; neither was it possible that hee could leauue his new desires for his old promises.

But hee replied ; as *Diatassan*, hee was subiect to much mutability ; but as *Enstatio*, hee was euer constant, and neuer desired other glory then his dearest *Claraestella* ; which I will witnesse by this action : And then taking *Thirsis* by the hand , hee presented him to the Princesse, with a publique confession of all truthe, in such manner as the Prince *Adunatus* had formerly declared. A ioy so full of all contentment and delight to the Princesse, that her dead spirits being awakned out of a sorrowfull lethargie; began to daunce *Lenalto's* in her bosome ; and shee

Q 3.      enquired

## The second part of the first Fooke

enquired of *Thirsis* what that strange Sheepheard was, who had so vertuously entred into the Combate, and with such admiration left it most happily perfect, with a blest imperfection. And he delared vnto her, that he was his owne naturall brother, borne in *Arcadia*, who stirred vp, with the report of those triumphes, was come onely to behold an end of their proceedings.

Vpon which report the Princesse gaue him a most intire and gracious welcom; and then congratulating the prosperous and most happy meeting of the Princesse of *Dalmatia*, and the Prince of *Sicil* (whom their lawes could not touch, through the eternity of their vowes) she tendred vnto them all the fauours whatsoeuer *Tempe* enjoyed: and they only besought her, since that blisfull day had brought vnto them all the ioyes of their wishes, that she would be pleased to pardon the condemned Duke, whom they intended to take from those walkes, and plant in his former greatnessse.

To which the Princesse gaue ample consent: and so the prisoner being vnbound; *Clarastella*, as she was *Appellesia*, ascended once more her throne, and gaue this iudgement of the prizes.

First, that *Thirsis* should enjoy the free gift of the Princesse: Next, that *Diataffan*, in as much as his picture and likenesse had wonne the honour and glory of the day, that hee should enjoy the picture of the Princesse. Then, that *Oppicus*, who had first entred into combate with *Demagoras*, should enjoy the rich garland. And lastly, that *Colin*, by whose prowesse and seconds the Out-law was taken; and so their

their launds purged of huge massacres should possesse *Thamiclodias* well-sounding Harpe. At the end of which sentence the whole assembly gaue a great shout, saying; That *Minerva* could not haue bettered her censure. And then the Princesse giuing commandement for Eglogs, Maskes, Wrastlings, and all manner of pastorall delights which might giue entertainment to these new-discouered fortunes, every Instrument sounding, and all hearts rejoycing, they marched from the Theater in the same manner as they entred, and came to the lodge of the Princesse, where they consumed that night in feasting, dauncing, and all of other pastimes which had any taste either of wit or Inuention.

*The end of the first Booke.*

